



## RETURN TO SCHOOL MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you have managed to have a restful and enjoyable half term break under the current circumstances.

No doubt you are as heartened as we are to hear that schools would be reopening from Monday 8th March; we are so looking forward to welcoming our children back into our schools once more. You can see the latest guidance from the Department for Education here [Guidance for schools: coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-for-schools-coronavirus-covid-19). I wanted to write to you to set out our initial plans for reintroducing our pupils into school. The DfE has stated that school attendance will be mandatory for all children from Monday 8th March and that schools will have discretion on how to phase the return of children over that week. We will continue to take a measured approach to ensure that all members of our school community are kept safe.

### ATTENDANCE

Usual rules on school attendance will apply including:

- parents' duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school, and they are of compulsory school age;
- parents' duty to inform school on the first day of absence the reason for the absence; this is all the more important in the current climate;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- holidays will not be authorised within school term time

**We would ask that you do not send your child to school if they become poorly especially if they or a member of their household has symptoms of the coronavirus.**

### CLINICALLY VULNERABLE STAFF AND CHILDREN

The latest guidance is that Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) staff and students should be supported to work remotely and should not attend school at present. We have previously contacted parents/carers of any CEV children and discussed their needs. Please contact us directly if you have concerns and you have not already spoken to a member of staff.

### PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES TO MINIMISE RISK

I know that some families will feel anxious about the return to school. Please be reassured that the safety of our young people and staff is of paramount importance and our robust risk assessments are regularly updated and reviewed to reflect the latest guidance. Since the start of term, we have responded immediately to any identified positive cases or any children or staff with symptoms to reduce the risk of transmission. We continue to use a robust procedure to identify contacts and move quickly to ensure that close contacts are sent home to isolate.

The essential measures we will continue to implement include:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home and get tested
- lateral flow testing of staff members
- adults on site to wear a face covering
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contact and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

At Curdworth Primary School we will continue to reduce contact in the following ways:

- grouping children together in class bubbles
- avoiding contact between different classes or bubbles
- arranging Owls, Foxes and Squirrels classrooms with forward facing desks
- asking staff to maintain distance from pupils not in their bubble, and other staff in school, as much as possible

### WHOLE SCHOOL ORGANISATION

In order to facilitate the safe return to schools and, in keeping with the DfE's suggestion that we can use discretion to support our wider reopening, we will be operating a staggered start from March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Please see the tables over the page for details of the organisation of our school day from March 8<sup>th</sup>. Please note, this is the same format that we followed from September – December 2020.

### Start and finish times:

| FAMILY GROUPS     | START TIME | FINISH TIME |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|
| JAGUAR & VAUXHALL | 8.45 am    | 3.00 pm     |
| FORD & ROVER      | 9.00 am    | 3.15 pm     |

### Whole school organisation:

| BUBBLE          | EXIT & ENTRY POINT | BREAK TIME & LOCATION | LUNCH TIME & LOCATION                              |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| HEDGEHOGS CLASS | HEDGEHOGS DOOR     | 10.30 – 10.45         | EATING IN HALL:<br>12.00 – 12.30                   |
|                 |                    | KS1 PLAYGROUND        | OUTDOOR PLAY ON KS1<br>PLAYGROUND:<br>12.30 – 1.00 |
| OWLS CLASS      | OWLS DOOR          | 11.00 – 11.15         | EATING IN HALL:<br>12.30 – 1.00                    |
|                 |                    | KS1 PLAYGROUND        | OUTDOOR PLAY ON KS1<br>PLAYGROUND:<br>1.00 – 1.30  |
| FOXES CLASS     | HALL SHUTTER DOOR  | 10.30 – 10.45         | EATING IN CLASSROOM:<br>12.00 – 12.30              |
|                 |                    | KS2 PLAYGROUND        | OUTDOOR PLAY ON KS2<br>PLAYGROUND:<br>12.30 – 1.00 |
| SQUIRRELS CLASS | KS2 DOOR           | 11.00 – 11.15         | EATING IN CLASSROOM:<br>12.30 – 1.00               |
|                 |                    | KS2 PLAYGROUND        | OUTDOOR PLAY ON KS2<br>PLAYGROUND:<br>1.00 – 1.30  |

### IMPORTANT SAFETY MEASURES

Please can we remind you of the following safety measures that must be adhered to when on our school site:

- **children must stay with their adult when on site and should not run off ahead of their parent/carer**
- entrance to our site is through the pedestrian gate and we ask that all visitors to site follow our strict one-way system around school in a clockwise direction
- exit to our school site is through the vehicle gate
- **only 1 adult** should come onto site to drop off and collect children
- **all adults on site must wear a face covering, unless they are exempt from doing so**
- parents/carers must remain socially distanced from one another when waiting to drop off/collect children
- parents/carers must not gather to chat on school site or block paths/gateways
- pupils and their siblings must not play on the playground/play equipment before and after school as it is assigned to specific bubbles only
- we ask that parents/carers stay back from the doors at collection/drop off times and **parents/carers must not enter the shutter areas outside the hall or Hedgehog's classroom door**

These systems are in place to allow everyone to effectively socially distance during time on our school site.

### UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

- To reflect the updated guidance, teachers will continue to ensure that their classrooms have good airflow and ventilation to reduce the risk of transmission. **On cold days, children should be reminded to wear suitable layers of clothing (e.g. base layers under uniform and a school jumper) as we will still need to keep windows open.** Please note that all children will be expected to attend school in full uniform.
- Children will be asked to come to school on their allocated PE day wearing their school PE kit. This should include their family group t-shirt (available from our school uniform suppliers), dark coloured shorts, leggings or joggers (depending on the weather), their school jumper or fleece and trainers suitable to be worn outside. Where possible, PE will be taking place outdoors so children will also need a coat.
- Reading books will be changed on allocated days. **Please can all outstanding school reading books be returned to school as soon as possible.** Due to books not being returned, we are running low in some book bands and books are very expensive to replace.
- If your child is bringing a packed lunch to school, it should be brought into school in a **plastic lunchbox** which can be thoroughly washed each day.
- Children do not need to bring large bags into school, they will only need a small drawstring bag or a school book bag (available from our uniform supplier).
- School will continue to supply each child with their own filled pencil case which will need to be kept at school. Children will not be permitted to bring in their own pencil case or stationery into school.

## LUNCHTIMES

When all children return to school, our school kitchen will be open each day and all school meals (including free school meals) will need to be ordered at least the day before on our school money platform. The menus will be uploaded by the end of this week for you to book in advance. Mrs Teasdale will send a text message to all parents when the menus are ready.

Children may also bring their own drink and healthy snack to school with them to have during their mid-morning break.

## THE ALLSORTS CLUB

The Allsorts Club will reopen for before and after school care on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The Allsorts Club will open at 7.30am each morning and will close at 5.15pm promptly each evening.

Sessions will need to be booked in advance each week and we will not be able to offer children a space at short notice. Sessions will be allocated on a first come – first served basis and **we will not be able to exceed 15 children** in the morning or afternoon Allsorts Club bubble. This is so we can limit the number of children using the facility across the week and keep the bubbles as consistent as possible. It is assumed that regular bookings from the Autumn term will continue, however parents will need to confirm this via email.

To make or confirm a booking for The Allsorts Club, please email: [theallsortsclub@welearn365.com](mailto:theallsortsclub@welearn365.com)

If you have any questions about what will be happening for your child when they return to school, then please do not hesitate to contact us at [enquiry@curdworth.warwickshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@curdworth.warwickshire.sch.uk)

Your support and cooperation are valued, and we are looking forward to welcoming our children back to school – where they belong!

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs Lisa Dodd  
Head Teacher