

www.overstoneprimaryschool.org.uk

15th July 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all keeping well. We are so looking forward to welcoming all the children back in September and I want to assure you that we will be working within Government guidelines to ensure that everyone at school is kept safe. As things stand, all pupils will be expected to attend and the following information will ensure that everyone is clear about the systems that will be in place and the expectations for all members of our school community.

Start and finish times will be staggered to avoid congestion. The times will be as follows and refer to the year groups the children will be moving into in September:

Reception and Year 5 & 6: 8.45am-3.10pm Year 1, Year2, Year 3 and 4: 8.55am-3.20pm

HEADTEACHER: MRS J MARDELL

I do understand that this may not be convenient for parents who have children in different classes but it is the safest way to stagger the times, taking into account the entrances into school and other factors.

You are currently welcome to use the vehicle gate (on foot) as well as the pedestrian entrance as this reduces congestion. Please enter the playground via the green pedestrian gate and leave via the silver vehicle one. We ask that you avoid coming into the reception area by the office as this is a very small space. If you have to, only one person can be in that area at any one time. We also ask that parents do not come into the school building with their children; we need to limit the number of people in school for the safety of everyone. If you need to speak to the office or to another member of staff, please do so by telephone or email where possible. Your child's teacher will always be happy to speak to you on the telephone after school if you do have anything you wish to discuss with them.

The children will remain in class bubbles throughout the school day. They will not mix during lessons or break times and they will eat lunch with their class. There will be strict rules around regular hand washing and sanitizing.

Wraparound Care

Breakfast club will be in operation from Monday to Friday, starting at 8am. Children will enter via the main entrance near the school office. Breakfast club will take place in the hall where pupils will sit within their class bubbles. Activities will be table based so that the children will not mix with other bubbles. Staff will serve fruit juice and cereal and this will be served to the table by staff who will be wearing gloves. If you prefer to send your child with their own breakfast, you are welcome to do so. Breakfast club bookings for current pupils can now be made via ParentPay. If your child is due to start in Reception in September and you would like to book a place at breakfast club, please email the school office on admin@overstoneprimaryschool.org.uk specifying the days you require and we will ensure a space is kept for you. You will receive a ParentPay login in September.

Overstone Twilights after school club will take place straight after school. Pupils can be collected any time up until 6pm. The club will be run by TJ Daycare Ltd and any bookings or enquiries should be directed to them on 07713476451 or 01604 845979 terryschofield139@gmail.com Pupils at the club will form a separate











bubble, in line with Government guidelines. Numbers will be limited and only pupils who have reserved a place in advance will be allowed to attend. There will be no facility for bookings taken on the day.

School Uniform

School uniform should be worn by all pupils. Government guidelines state: "Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal." Children will need PE kit in school. Outdoor PE will be encouraged and there will be limitations around the use of equipment in accordance with the guidelines.

School Equipment

Children should not bring their own equipment into school. We will provide them with a wipeable, plastic wallet for their pencils, pens, etc. None of this equipment will be shared and it will be kept in school. We will provide the children with a plastic folder which can be used for items which need to come home such as reading books, library books and homework but **no bags and no pencil cases will be allowed in school at this time.** Reading and library books will only be used within class bubbles and will be cleaned or quarantined between use by different children. **Children will need their water bottles as the drinking fountain will continue to be out of use.**

Lunches

Kingswood Catering will continue to provide school packed lunches if required. (All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school packed lunch.) There will be no hot options available but there will be a choice of cold options. Lunches can be ordered online in the normal way. If you prefer to send your child with a packed lunch, that is fine. Please send it in a lunchbox which is easy to clean thoroughly each evening. The children will eat lunch in their class bubbles, either in their classrooms or outside if the weather is fine.

Assemblies

Unfortunately, we will be unable to hold whole school celebration assemblies with parents in attendance at this time. However, we will still celebrate the children's achievements within their classes. Owl point certificates, behaviour bugs and Headteacher's awards will still be awarded on a Friday and we will also continue to celebrate the children's home achievements and their birthdays.

These certainly are strange times for all of us but children are extremely resilient and those pupils who are currently back in school are enjoying learning and loving being back with their friends. They have been amazing in the way they have adapted to the new rules and regulations and the word from them is that they are happy to be back at school (and actually quite enjoying having their own table and not having to share their pencils!). I do understand that the return to school in September will be an anxious time for many parents but we will do everything we can to ensure that your children are safe and happy.

Have a lovely summer holiday. The long range weather forecast looks promising so even if you cannot go away, hopefully there will be lots of outdoor opportunities for you to enjoy with your children. The current situation is constantly evolving and of course, Government guidelines may change between now and September but I will let you know if any of the above arrangements change.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Janice Mardell Head Teacher

Je Mardell