

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all happy and well during these difficult times. We have successfully managed to enable all children to return to school this side of the year, which is a real achievement and a testament to all of the hard work of the staff. We know that many of you had chosen not to return before the summer break and we respect your decision.

It is a good feeling to be slowly getting through these times and heading towards some sort of normal for now. In September it is a requirement for ALL children to come back to school however there will still be some changes that need to be carried out for the health and safety of the children and staff. It is very important that you read this letter to understand the procedures that you as a parent will need to follow.

**What date will my child start school in September?**

School officially starts on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September however we will be staggering the start days for each year group that week to enable all children and parents to come into school safely, ensure social distancing to enable the senior team to monitor this robustly and make minor changes if necessary. Please see the following timetable for the first week back;

Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Year 1, 2, 3 & 4 start school
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Year 5 & 6 start school
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	All children in school

*\*Please note that new Reception starters will have a separate letter sent to you*

**Will the start and end of school timings be the same?**

No, start and finish times will be different for all year groups to enable everyone to come into school and leave safely and to minimise contact between different groups of children and parents. We will also be insisting that only **one adult** brings their child into the school grounds and ensuring they stay with them until they have had their temperature taken.

**This model will start in September and continue until further notice. We are being guided by the government with this.**

**The staggered start and finishing times will be as follows;**

**Years 2 & 6 - 8.30am – 2.50pm**

**Years 3 & 5 - 8.40am – 3pm**

**Years R, 1 & 4 - 8.50am – 3.10pm**

***We will not have any late clubs running so you MUST ensure that you are able to collect your child from school on time.***

We will have a queuing system with an appropriate distance into the school building and at the different entrances. This will enable us to welcome children into the building safely. The bigger playground will not be used as a waiting area so it is important that you come ONLY at the time that is allocated to you, committing to bringing your child in and collecting them on time. **In September we will be challenging attendance and punctuality issues as per our normal procedures.**

**It is vital that you make contact with the school about any absences and inform us of any illnesses. Please ensure that all your details on our system are correct, this is to safeguard your child.**

Each year group will have their own entrance and exit or a one-way system in and out of the school, thus avoiding unnecessary contact with other adults and children.

No children, of any age, should be left at the gate.

Please note that we cannot store scooters or bikes at this time. Parents are encouraged to walk or come to school by car avoiding public transport.

**Will there be after school clubs available?**

We will not be offering any after school clubs. They are still being planned for so when we are able to, they are ready to be on offer straight away.

**What about Breakfast Club and Little Bury Kids Club?**

Our WRAP club will be up and running for a very small group of children. This is ONLY to support working parents at the moment. The groups have now been set and if you have not already informed us then unfortunately we are unable to offer this to you. This will be reviewed after the first half term.

**Will my child be in their classroom and with their class teacher?**

Yes, your child will be taught by their allocated teacher. Each class will be a 'bubble' (maximum 30 children) and we will aim for each 'bubble' not to integrate with another 'bubble' throughout the school day. All tables will be facing the front and children will have their own set of equipment.

The children will have staggered play times and lunchtimes.

**Will the school be providing lunch?**

Yes, the school will be providing lunch, however for at least the first half term this will be a cold option. Children will be eating in their classrooms to avoid unnecessary transitions. We will assume that your child will be taking this option if this is what we have on record. If you already bring in a packed lunch this needs to adhere to our healthy lunchbox policy and be clearly labelled with your child's name mainly for health and safety reasons.

### **Will the school office be open?**

The school office will remain closed for any face to face parent queries. It will be available on an appointment basis that you can request via phone or email. You will need to tell us the nature of your query and you will be given an appointment to attend. Any ad hoc meetings will not be allowed however there will be plenty of staff outside to help with any queries.

### **Will the school curriculum be the same?**

The school curriculum will continue to be broad and balanced with additional Maths and English lessons where we can. Our usual methods of working collaboratively in groups will no longer be possible however children will learn to be more independent.

### **Will home learning continue?**

We will continue to provide high quality homework via Google Classroom for all year groups. We will outline more about how this will work in September.

### **Will my child be expected to social distance and what hygiene measures will be in place to keep my child safe?**

Children will remain in their bubble group throughout the school day. Desks will be facing the front with a partner to sit next to and with their own stationery packs. Equipment that cannot be easily cleaned will be removed from classrooms including the removal of all soft toys, soft furnishing etc. This will also be the case for playground equipment. Classrooms will be well ventilated at all times. Good hygiene practice will be in place: sanitising hands on the way in to school, cleaning hands more often than usual; washing hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap; promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and frequent cleaning of touched surfaces and resources. Playtime will also be staggered and we will plan for activities such as skipping and individual games to try and encourage social distancing.

Any first aid will be administered by a trained member of staff using the appropriate PPE.

### **Will school uniforms be required?**

Yes, a full school uniform is required but this must be clean and fresh at all times. This is key for health and hygiene reasons. Please note that shoes with laces for young children may need close contact with others if they need these to be tied. Please can you avoid shoes with laces.

*\*On PE days we will now expect children to wear their PE Kit to school that day to avoid additional equipment being brought to school. Please ensure that the PE kit worn follows our school uniform code e.g. white T shirt with logo, navy shorts and black plimsolls. We will notify you of these days in September.*

### **What will my child be allowed to bring to school?**

Please do not send your child in with anything other than a water bottle clearly labelled with their name on. Book bags, PE kits or other equipment is not essential and should not be brought to school. Games for example Football/Pokémon cards are also not allowed.

### **What will happen if I choose not to send my child to school?**

The Government has stated that all children must return to school in September. We will follow our usual Attendance and Punctuality procedures unless you have a shielding letter from a GP that outlines why your child should not be at school. This will need to be provided as evidence.

### **What happens if someone becomes unwell at school?**

When a child or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus (a temperature or a cough) they will be sent home.

**You** will need to be ready and willing to:

- [book a test](#) if they are displaying symptoms. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents/carers if using a home testing kit
- provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
- [self-isolate](#) if they have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test. Tests can be booked online through the NHS [testing and tracing for coronavirus website](#), or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet. Essential workers, which includes anyone involved in education or childcare, have priority access to testing.

**We will ask parents and staff to inform us immediately of the results of a test:**

- if someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.
- if someone tests positive, they should follow the [‘stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection’](#) and must continue to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 7-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

We thank you for your continued support and patience. I hope that our work over this difficult period has shown how committed we are to supporting your children.

If there are any questions that may not have been addressed in my letter, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school email [primary@edmonton.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:primary@edmonton.enfield.sch.uk)

Have lovely summer break and I really look forward to seeing you all return safe and well in September.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Erini Franciosa

Head of Primary