



## **School Re-Start**

**20<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

**Dear Parents,**

In order to facilitate a safe return to school for pupils, parents, staff and visitors it is vital that we all support each other in the days, weeks and months ahead. Your co-operation and patience is greatly valued. In doing so our staff and governors have worked together on the following arrangements for the re-opening of our school.

### **Attendance**

If your child, or any member of your household, becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough, high temperature/fever, or a loss or change in normal sense of smell, then **your child and their siblings, should not be sent to school.** Medical advice should be sought immediately from your G.P. Checking your child's temperature at home, prior to coming to school, would be a helpful measure in monitoring your child's well-being.

### **Shielding Letter**

If you, or any member of your immediate household have been in receipt of a shielding letter, you should contact the school to discuss arrangements for your child, **prior to** starting school.

### **Access to School**

Please note that, from 1<sup>st</sup> September, only school buses, EA taxis and Blue Badge holders will be allowed to drop off pupils in the set down area. **Parents will not be permitted access to the school grounds.** Parents should park in the church car park (facing Erne Drive) or the MUGA, and walk their child to the school pedestrian gate. There, they will be met by members of staff and escorted into school. In order to avoid congestion at the school gates, please socially distance (2m) along the public footpath and disperse quickly, once your child has entered the school grounds. **Children who travel to school by car will be permitted entry from 8.50am onwards and should not be left unsupervised prior to this time. Walking to school is actively encouraged, where it is safe to do so. Pupils and parents who live within the town boundary, should delay their arrival at school to 9.10am.**

### **Transport**

The EA Transport Service has advised that pupils travelling to school by bus should:

- Wash their hands before boarding a bus;
- Wear a face covering when they can;
- Carry tissues, cover coughs and sneezes;
- Fill seats from the back, sit apart (if possible) and sit with siblings;
- Do not eat, or drink, on board;
- Give everyone space when getting on and off a vehicle.

## **Hand Hygiene**

As pupils enter the school foyer, they should hand sanitise. Pupils will then proceed to their classrooms, where an adult will supervise handwashing with soap and water. Pupils will also be required to wash their hands prior to break and lunchtimes. Please talk to your child at home about this.

## **School Meals**

School dinners will run from Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Pupils should come in with the exact money (£2.60 per day, or parents can pay for the week). The exact money should be provided -change should be avoided at all times. Pupils will be served school dinners in the canteen, on a staggered basis, and those taking lunch will do so in their classrooms.

At break, a snack in P1-3 will be provided as normal, in the classroom, by their teacher. Your P1-3 teacher will be in contact with you to explain how this works, once your child starts. Break-time snack for P4-7 will be served in each classroom by our kitchen staff. The cost of the P4-7 snack will be 50p. As with school dinners, pupils should bring the exact money, in order to avoid the need for change. Please note that, for now, there will be no breakfast provided in the mornings. The pupils' break-time will also be staggered in order to facilitate class 'bubbles'.

## **School Milk**

We will provide details in the near future.

## **What to Bring to School**

Children are asked to bring a pencil, a rubber and a sharpener to school. We will supply scissors, glue, a ruler and an A4 plastic wallet, to store each child's possessions individually, instead of using pencil cases.

Children can bring their own colouring pencils, markers, crayons etc. but it is important to note, these will remain in school. Sending a small packet of tissues would be strongly advised.

Please send a bottle of water daily – reusable bottles would be preferred and ensure your child's bottle is clearly labelled. (Please note Mrs Meenagh's class will be supplied with water).

Please send a clearly labelled coat, lunch box (if applicable) & school bag as normal with your child. **Items from home e.g. pencil cases, footballs, soft toys, football cards etc. should NOT be brought to school.**

\*Mrs Meenagh has provided homework folders for her class – no schoolbag needed.

## **Homework**

All classes will be issued with homework on a Monday, for the week ahead. This can be completed at a pace suited to your family, although it is advised to complete a little per night. Homework packs should only be returned on a Friday when it will be collected by the teacher. Homework will begin on Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. Further details with regards to Reading books specific to each class will follow.

## **School Uniform**

Full school uniform must be worn daily. If possible, a fresh change of uniform is encouraged. This year, we would encourage the wearing of trainers. If your child cannot tie their laces, please ensure they have Velcro fastenings,

which they can manage themselves. On P.E. days, your child should come to school dressed for P.E. and their uniform can stay at home.

### **End of the School Day**

Children will leave school with their class and must be collected at the school gate. Please adhere to social distancing rules (2m) whilst waiting.

### **Liaising with a Member of Staff**

Members of staff will not be available for impromptu parent/teacher meetings in the morning/afternoon. If you need to speak to a teacher, they will be available via telephone. Please contact the school office to make an appointment and they will get back to you as soon as possible.

**Mr Liam Monaghan**

**Principal**