

Folksworth C of E (VC) Primary School

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Wednesday 14th July 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your continued support and understanding over these challenging times. Whilst the pandemic has had a negative impact on many areas of our lives one of the benefits we have seen is how the school and wider community has pulled together offering support to each other. This is something that we hope to continue to strengthen this as we move forwards.

As you know, restrictions will be relaxed across the country on Monday 19th July, however, as a school we will continue to follow the protective measures in place until the end of term on Wednesday next week.

In September we hope to return to a more 'normal' structure whilst maintaining some of the changes as set out below.

Self-Isolation and Bubble Closure

Bubbles will no longer be a requirement in September allowing children to mix more freely across the school. Where there is a positive test, the child and family will need to isolate but whole classes will not need to be closed. The identification of close contacts will be organised through NHS Test and Trace rather than the school, although we will fully engage in supporting the identification of close contacts within the school setting.

Where children who are entitled to Free School Meals are self-isolating food vouchers will continue to be issued.

Where children have to stay at home remote learning will be provided through a daily Sway and Microsoft Teams.

Face Coverings

These are no longer a requirement from September.

Drop off and Collection

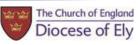
School will continue to open the gates between 8:45am and 8:55am for children to be dropped off at their classroom doors. Acorn will be dropped off at the door which can be accessed from the main playground.

All children will be collected at 3:15pm. Children will be led out to the playground by their class teachers for collection and can be collected from the main part of the playground, not by classroom doors. We ask that parents/ carers do not go down the ramp to the back of the school and encourage families to maintain social distancing when on the playground.

Classroom Seating

Children will no longer required to be seated in rows within their classes. Table groups will be reinstated where this is appropriate for their learning.







Assemblies

Assemblies will resume in the school hall each morning. However, we will endeavour to space the class groups further apart within the hall and have windows and doors open for ventilation.

Lunchtimes

We have seen some benefits to lunchtimes where these have been restricted to bubbles as children have had more space to play. Lunchtime will continue to run for 45 minutes in two sittings. Acorn and Maple Class will have lunch from 12pm – 12:45pm and Oak and Elm together from 12:30-1:15pm. We will continue to keep this under review.

<u>Clubs</u>

After school clubs and Stay and Play will be open to all age groups and children across the school will be able to mix freely within these groups.

<u>PE Kit</u>

Children will be able to come to school wearing PE kit on PE days. In Key Stage 2 children will have one long afternoon session. In EYFS and Key Stage 1 children will have two shorter sessions in the mornings.

PE days planned for September are:

- Acorn Monday and Wednesday
- Maple Monday and Wednesday
- Oak Monday
- Elm Tuesday

<u>Testing</u>

Where children are presenting with Covid-19 symptoms a PCR will continue to be required. May we remind you that lateral flow devices are for the purpose of asymptomatic testing and are not appropriate for children of primary age.

Celebration of Learning/ Community Events

We are hoping to reinstate some of our community events. Where possible, these will be staggered to reduce the numbers on site at a time and held outdoors.

Cleaning and Hygiene Procedures

The enhanced cleaning and hygiene procedures will continue into the Autumn term. This will include increased ventilation and regular handwashing.

As always, if you have any questions, queries or concerns please do come and speak to myself or a relevant member of staff to discuss these further.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Norbury Headteacher





