



24th February 2021

Dear Parents

By now, I am certain you will have heard the government plans for all pupils, in all year groups, to return to school full-time from March 8th 2021. We are very excited at this announcement and can't wait to welcome all of our children back.

We understand that some of you and your children will be anxious about returning. The leaders and I have been working hard to once again plan the safest way of welcoming back all pupils and mitigating risk. We have made a few changes in light of current DfE guidance, however many of our systems remain the same. I hope that the measures detailed in this letter will help to put your mind at ease.

Measures in place around the school:

- Children will remain in their class group or 'bubble' for the whole day. They will take break, lunch and lessons together with the same key staff
- Staggered start and end of day will support social distancing at busier times
- Children will access school, in their 'bubble' by named entrance and exit points (same times and locations as in December)
- Regular hand washing and sanitising of hands and touch points will continue
- Visitors to the school are being kept to essential visitors only. For this reason we ask you to contact us by phone to arrange meetings. We hope our open door policy can be reinstated soon, when it is safe to do so
- All staff are taking twice weekly lateral flow tests (LFTs). This enables us to look for asymptomatic individuals
- Staff will wear face coverings when collecting and dismissing the children. We ask that you respectfully do the same when visiting the school grounds
- Staff may wear face coverings in school when working with a child 1:1 for a prolonged period of time
- We are looking at the possibility of offering breakfast clubs for keyworker and vulnerable children. You will have received communication about this. I will contact you next week to confirm our decisions around this.

Measures in place within the classroom:

- Children will have their own named space in the classroom and therefore only use the same desk. This will be sanitised at the beginning, middle and end of the day
- Children will have their own named equipment, stored in a named bag, this will also be sanitised at the end of every day

- Children will wear their school uniform. On PE days we ask that Eton Park pupils wear their PE kit. Lansdowne children should bring and leave their kit in school
- Any shared equipment ie: reading books/ PE/ ICT will be sanitised and left to quarantine for 72 hours between bubble use
- First aid or personal care will be administered by our trained staff. PPE equipment is provided for this purpose.

Curriculum

- We are mindful many of you will have concerns regarding the amount of school your child may have missed. Please be reassured we have adapted our curriculum and teaching methods to ensure that opportunities are provided for all children to address these gaps. We will arrange a parent consultation, in a safe format, in early May for you. As always, please discuss your concerns with the class teacher or senior leaders before then, if you wish.
- We are keen to start work with the children as soon as we can but we are mindful that we may need to revisit some basics before we can do this. We will take time to support the children in classes, groups or on an individual basis.

Clearly COVID is not going away and is still an ever present concern for our community. We would like to remind you therefore, that the same systems for reporting apply. If you suspect that you or a member of your family have symptoms, you must book a test and isolate until you receive the results. Please keep us informed so that we can take the necessary action within schools. Bubble closures have not gone away and we need to remain vigilant to keep safe.

We will be in touch with you again next week to remind you of the times and entrances you will be using to come into school. Please keep your eyes on our text service, website and Class Dojo. In the interim if there is anything you wish to speak with myself or the team about please contact us.

I look forward to seeing you on March 8th, if only from a safe distance.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Helen Phillips
Executive Principal

Lansdowne; a de Ferrers Trust Academy
Eton Park: a de Ferrers Trust Academy