

Wednesday 15th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to finally be writing to you about our plans for the full opening of school from September 2020.

We have learned a lot from the partial reopening during the summer term and have been able to adjust our risk assessment to welcome all children back in full classes in September.

The government has made it clear that there is a legal requirement for all children to return to school at the start of the Autumn Term in September.

Of course there will be plenty that needs to be caught up on academically, re-establishing rules and routines and focusing on the emotional and mental wellbeing of the children will be integral to their successful reintegration into school life. Many children came back to school in June and they quickly understood some of the new safety rules and established a new 'normal'. Thank you to all those parents who helped to make this possible

Protective measures we are taking in light of coronavirus (COVID-19)

First and foremost, it goes without saying that the safety of your child and of our staff is our top priority. We will be following the latest government guidance, to further develop our new ways of operating. This will allow us to open as safely as possible, focusing on measures that will help limit the risk of coronavirus transmitting within our setting.

Some of the steps we are taking in readiness for reopening include:

- Asking that anyone who is displaying coronavirus symptoms, or who lives with someone who does, not to attend the setting. That includes children and staff who work here.
- Keeping our children in class groups with as much consistent staffing as possible, and minimising contact with other groups around the setting.
- Cleaning our hands more often than usual. We have developed routines to ensure children understand when and how to wash their hands, making sure they wash them thoroughly for at least 20 seconds using running water and soap and dry them thoroughly, or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.
- Ensuring our children understand good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and ensuring a good supply of tissues and bins throughout the setting.
- Implementing an enhanced cleaning schedule, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including table tops, door handles and play equipment.
- Asking parents and carers to physically distance from each other and from staff when dropping off and collecting their children and to limit drop off and collection to one parent or carer per household.
- Asking children not to bring toys or other items from home to the setting, unless this is essential to their health and wellbeing.

What can parents and carers do to help?

There are a number of things parents and carers can do to help us make these arrangements effective, in addition to the points listed above concerning arrival and departure and not bringing toys to the setting.

- If your child, or someone in your household has coronavirus symptoms, they should not come to school and the school office should be informed immediately.
- If your child develops coronavirus symptoms while at the school, you will need to immediately collect your child, get them tested for coronavirus and get back to us with the outcome of the test.

- For the vast majority of children and young people, coronavirus is a mild illness. Some categories of children with specific serious health conditions should not attend school. If you are unsure whether your child should attend the setting due to a health condition that they or someone they live with has, please contact us so we can discuss the details with you.

Testing

We ask all parents and carers to ensure they organise a test for their child, in the event that they develop coronavirus symptoms, and notify us immediately of a positive test. A positive test will ensure rapid action to protect other children and staff in their setting. A negative test means that parents or carers do not need to self-isolate any longer than is necessary and their children can return to childcare or school.

Return dates

As you know, the year groups will be staggered so that we can gradually and safely familiarise everyone into our new ways of working.

Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 should return to school on Monday 7th September 2020

Year 4 and Year 6 should return to school on Tuesday 8th September 2020

Year 5 should return to school on Wednesday 9th September 2020

As usual, Year Nursery and Reception have different start dates. Year Nursery and Reception parents know what these dates are.

School times

To support social distancing, we have also staggered the times of the school day for the different year groups.

	Start	End	Drop off and collection arrangements
Y6 Lime	8.15am	2.45pm	Kingsgate Road gate
Y6 Olive	8.15am	2.45pm	Kingsgate Road gate
Y6 Tamarisk	8.15am	2.45pm	Science lab gate on Messina Avenue
Y5 Maple	8.15am	2.45pm	Messina Avenue gate
Y5 Willow	8.15am	2.45pm	Messina Avenue gate
Y5 Rowan	8.15am	2.45pm	Messina Avenue gate
Y5 Cypress	8.15am	2.45pm	Messina Avenue gate
Y4 Rosewood	8.30am	3.00pm	Messina Avenue gate
Y4 Oak	8.30am	3.00pm	Messina Avenue gate
Y4 Plum	8.30am	3.00pm	Messina Avenue gate
Y3 Peach	8.30am	3.00pm	Science lab gate on Messina Avenue
Y3 Mulberry	8.30am	3.00pm	Kingsgate Road gate
Y3 Plane	8.30am	3.00pm	Kingsgate Road gate
Y2 Honeysuckle	9.00am	3.30pm	Liddell Place entrance (main entrance)
Y2 Ash	9.00am	3.30pm	Liddell Place entrance (main entrance)
Y2 Hazel	9.00am	3.30pm	Liddell Place entrance (main entrance)
Y1 Briar	9.00am	3.30pm	Maygrove Road

Y1 Cherry	9.00am	3.30pm	Maygrove Road
Y1 Bramble	9.00am	3.30pm	Maygrove Road
Reception Hawthorn	9.15am	3.15pm	Liddell Place entrance (main entrance)
Reception Apple	9.15am	3.15pm	Maygrove Road
Reception Elm	9.15am	3.15pm	Maygrove Road
Nursery	9.15am	3.00	Liddell Place entrance (main entrance)

*If you have children in different year groups, please bring all your children to school at whichever time is earlier.

Drop off and collection arrangements

Morning “drop off” and collection, at allocated time

- o Please bring your child to the entrance as detailed above.

To support social distancing

- o Thank you for your co-operation in supporting social distancing at all times.
- o Only one adult per family will be able to drop off and/or collect your child from the top of the playground staircase.
- o Please do not arrive any earlier or later than your allocated time.
- o No scooter, bikes or prams can be left at the school during the day
- o Any messages for the teacher should be sent via email to the school office or please telephone and your message will be passed on.
- o The main school office will be closed to visitors, but is contactable by phone/email.
- o **Parents will not be able to enter the school building.**

Class organisation

- o Children will be taught in whole class groups.

Playtimes / lunchtimes

- o The children will have staggered active playtimes during the day where they only mix with their year group.
- o All children will eat lunch in the lunch hall
- o If parents prefer, children can bring in a packed lunch from home.
- o The cost of school dinners is £2.22 per day (£11.10 per week).
- o Children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 receive free school meals through universal free school meals.
- o If your child wishes to change from school dinners to packed lunch, this can only happen at the start of each half term.

Curriculum / Learning

- o The full school curriculum will be taught as much as possible
- o Priorities for learning will include personal, social, emotional and physical wellbeing and revisiting essential learning in reading, writing, maths, speaking and listening.
- o Outdoor learning will be encouraged where possible and classrooms will be naturally ventilated at all times.
- o We will not take children on public transport to go on a trip in Autumn Term.
- o Reading books can be sent home from September
- o Homework will be posted on to the Google Classroom online facility (more information to follow)

Learning from home

- o If a class group of children has to self-isolate at home for 14 days, learning online from home will start immediately. We will be using Google Classroom to facilitate this. (More information to follow). This will involve regular online contact with a teacher.
- o The learning online from home curriculum will reflect as much as possible what the children would have been learning at school.

Keeping safe through good hygiene

- Good hygiene practice will continue to be in place: cleaning hands more often than usual; washing hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and using hand sanitiser ; promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and frequent cleaning of touched surfaces and resources.
- Each group will be allocated specific toilets to use to minimise contact as much as possible.
- Daily cleaning will take place *throughout* the school day, with a particularly thorough clean of classrooms, corridors, staircases and toilets overnight.
- Equipment that cannot be easily cleaned will be removed/placed out of bounds.
- All children should wear school uniform. We hope that this will help them to feel that things are starting to return to 'normal'.
- Parents need to order uniform online before 31st August and collect at relevant site on Thursday 3rd Sept and Friday 4th Sept between 9.30-3.30.
- Due to the current pandemic, parents will not be able to return items of uniform.
- In September, we are unable to lend children PE kit so please ensure your child brings their kit on their PE day. There is no swimming for Year 3 in Autumn Term.
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- Parents will receive a letter telling you how to register online to pay for uniform and school dinners. If you have not received the letter by Friday 31st July, email admin@kingsgate-pri.camden.sch.uk and the letter will be emailed to them on 1st September. Photos of uniform is on our website

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- The Government has said that PPE is not be necessary in schools, other than for a very small number of cases (e.g. routine intimate care needs and when supervising a child who becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus).

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do all children have to return to school at the start of the Autumn Term?

The government has stated that all children must, by law return to school at the start of the summer term (unless they have been advised by a doctor to stay at home).

2. If a member of my family is considered to be clinically extremely vulnerable, do I still have to send my child to school?

The government says that all children must return to school at the start of the Autumn Term.

3. What will happen if I choose not to send my child to school?

The Government has stated that parents will be fined if their children do not attend school.

4. Will there be a breakfast club from September?

We will be running breakfast club from Monday 7th Sept. Breakfast club will run from 7.30am (KS2) and 8am (EYFS/KS1) each morning. Children must arrive punctually as a member of staff will collect the children from the school entrance

Breakfast club will cost £5 per week.

We must keep numbers in breakfast club as low as possible in order to minimise the mixing of children's class groups. **For this reason breakfast club will only be available for the children of working parents who need to be at work first thing in the morning and must now be booked in advance for the whole term for five days a week.** This will help us to plan ahead and make sure that we have staff available to run it.

Will there be any after school clubs from September?

School will not be running after school clubs until further notice in order to minimise the mixing of class groups across the school.

5. Will there be any events in the Autumn Term eg the Nativity, coffee mornings?

We are trying to find a way to run some special events virtually, using Zoom. We will keep you informed about these.

6. Can I just pop in to the school office if I have a question or if I want to give school staff a message?

Parents cannot come in to the school building unless they have been invited in by the headteacher, deputy headteacher or SENCO until further notice. Please communicate with us by telephone or e mail the school office to let us know that you would like us to call you.

If you need to arrange a meeting, please telephone the school office to schedule an appointment or a phone call from a class teacher.

7. Can my child bring in anything from home to school?

Yes, children can bring in their own packed lunch if they do not want a school packed lunch. Please leave all other bags, toys and books at home, including pens, pencils etc, which will be provided by the school.

8. If I have a child in two different year groups due to return this term, which drop off and pick up time should I use?

Please use the earliest drop off and pick up time.

9. What will happen if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus of a child or adult at school?

If a child or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they will be sent home, asked to get a test and report back the result of the test to the school as soon as possible.

They must also self- isolate for 7 days

Where the child or staff member tests negative, they can return to school

Where the child or staff member test positive, the rest of the class will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. Children will take part in learning online from home during this period.

Thank you again for all your constructive support through these unexpected and uncertain times and we look forward to welcoming you back in September.

With best wishes

Liz Hayward Headteacher

Ian Whittaker Chair of Governors