

1st September 2021

Dear parents and carers

I hope you all had a good summer break, and that you managed to get some rest and relaxation after the challenges of last year. We are all looking forward to welcoming the children back to school. In particular, I would like to welcome the parents of new children starting at our school, in Nursery and in Reception and in other classes in the school.

The first day of school is on Friday 3rd September.

(Some Nursery and Reception children will start on a different date, as stated in the letter you received before the holiday.)

KS2 registration is at 8.30

EYFS KS1 registration is at 9am

We are about to start a new term at a time when the government has relaxed the requirement for most preventative measures. I want to give you some information about the arrangements that the school has put into place. We have tried to take a sensible approach in lifting some of the measures in school. However, we are also aware that the coronavirus, leading to Covid-19 infection, is still very much in circulation in the general community in the UK.

We will keep our measures under constant review and will let you know if we decide to make any changes.

I have added our updated school risk assessment to the website. This risk assessment has also been submitted to Camden.

Ventilation

We will ensure as best we can that all indoor spaces are well ventilated. Where practical, windows and doors will be left open.

The government has announced that it will begin to roll out carbon dioxide monitors to education settings in England, so we can quickly identify where ventilation may need to be improved. These should be available to schools during the autumn term.

Good hygiene

Posters will be displayed throughout the school reminding pupils, staff and visitors to wash their hands, e.g. before entering and leaving the school.

Children will wash their hands and use hand sanitiser regularly during the school day

On arrival.

After use of the toilet.

Before eating

After playing outside

After sneezing

Before departure

Tissues will be available for all children and they will be encouraged to use the “Catch it, bin it, kill it approach” for coughing and sneezing.

We will keep in place our enhanced cleaning regime. This will include regular cleaning of all areas, including toys and equipment and additional cleaning of regularly touched surfaces, such as door handles and hand rails.

Testing and self-isolation

Anyone with any symptoms of COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19 must self-isolate immediately.

Staff will continue to be able to access lateral flow tests twice weekly from school, if they wish

If a child or staff member tests positive on a lateral flow device (LFD) test, they should self-isolate and inform the school. They should immediately order a confirmatory PCR test to check the positive result.

- If the PCR test is taken within two days and the result is negative, they can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons).
- If the PCR test is positive (or is taken more than two days after the LFD), they must self-isolate until 10 days after the date of the LFD test. Other members of the household will also be strongly advised to do a PCR test. However, close contacts of a confirmed case (including siblings) will not need to self-isolate if they are exempt (see below) unless they have symptoms or have tested positive.

Close contacts of a positive case no longer need to isolate if they meet the below criteria. Instead, they will be advised to take a PCR test.

- they are fully vaccinated.
- they are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Class ‘bubbles’

The government has lifted the requirement for class ‘bubbles’. This means that we can hold assemblies and start after school clubs. We will start holding weekly phase assemblies in KS1 and in KS2 for two year groups at a time. These assemblies will take place in a large hall which will be ventilated and the children spaced out, as far as we can.

In Reception and in KS1 children will play in year groups. In KS2 each class will have their own zone in the playground to play in.

Children who attend breakfast clubs will sit on year group tables.

In the lunch hall children will sit at class tables.

Social distancing

Staff will be reminded to minimise their close face-to-face contact with others (pupils and adults) as far as practicable. We will continue to manage children's movements around the school carefully to avoid congestion.

We will restrict the numbers of visitors in the office areas to 3 at any one time. Visitors will be encouraged to wear face coverings. Parents and carers should continue to email the office with any queries rather than visiting, wherever possible.

In staff rooms, offices and meeting rooms, furniture will be arranged to prevent close face-to-face contact with each other, where possible.

Start and finish times to the school day

There will no longer be staggered start and finish times to the school day.

In KS2 - The school day is from 8.30am to 3pm in KS2. Children should be sitting in their classroom at 8.30.

In EYFS and KS1-The school day is from 9am to 3.30. Children should be sitting in their classroom at 9am.

Early work in the morning (when children can start coming into school)

KS2 8.20-8.30

The school gates will open at 8.20.

KS2 children can start coming into school at 8.20. School staff will supervise children walking into the school.

Parents should say goodbye to their child at their allocated school gate:

Year 3 Kingsgate Road

Year 4 Messina Avenue

Year 5 Messina Avenue

Year 6 Kingsgate Road

EYFS and KS1 8.50-9am

In EYFS and KS1 - The school gates/barriers will open at 8.50.

Children can start coming into school at 8.50. Parents can accompany their child to the door where the children go into the building, but will not be able to enter the building with their child.

If you have more than one child in different year groups, please enter through the main Liddell Place entrance.

Nursery Liddell Place

Reception Maygrove Road

Year 1 Maygrove Road

Year 2 Liddell Place

Pick up arrangements at the end of the day

Only one adult per child is allowed to enter the school playground. You must keep your child by your side and supervise them yourselves. Do not allow your children to run around in the playground or in the line.

If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please arrange a quick phone call through the office, rather than speaking to them in the playground, if possible.

Please leave the school playground as soon as you have collected your child.

In KS2 the school gate will open at 3pm.

Parents should enter the school playground through their allocated gate.

Year 3 Kingsgate Road

Year 4 Messina Avenue

Year 5 Messina Avenue

Year 6 Kingsgate Road

In EYFS KS1 the school gate/barrier will open at 3.30.

Nursery Liddell Place

Reception Maygrove Road

Year 1 Maygrove Road

Year 2 Liddell Place

Coffee mornings

We will introduce a booking system to reduce numbers attending face to face, or where we can we will arrange zoom sessions.

After school clubs start on Monday 13th September

In KS2 After school clubs will be from 3pm – 4pm

In KS1 After school clubs will be from 3.30-4.30pm

School trips

We will not take children on public transport on school trips. Geography and science fieldwork in the local area will take place. We will review this at October half term.

Face coverings

The government does not encourage primary age children to wear face coverings. However, parents and carers, staff and children may wear a face covering, if they wish.

Actions if somebody in school develops symptoms of Covid-19

We will allocate a room where the individual can be isolated until they can go home. This room will be well ventilated.

The symptomatic person will be taken to the isolation room.

For pupils – parents/carers will be contacted to arrange collection. Pupils should either walk or be collected by a household member in a car (they should not use public transport).

For staff – they will go home or arrange to be collected (they should not use public transport – if they cannot walk, drive or be collected, they should get a black cab where the passenger is separated from the driver by a screen and wear a face covering at all times).

The room will be deep cleaned after use.

Vaccinations

The government and the school encourages all eligible adults in the country to be vaccinated against coronavirus.

Please email or call the school office if you have any queries about any of this information.

The school email is admin@kingsgate-pri.camden.sch.uk

The school telephone is 020 7264 5379

Warmest wishes



Liz Hayward

Headteacher