



Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Full Re-Opening of school – Monday March 8th**

We are delighted that all children are able to return to school from March 8<sup>th</sup>. This is something that we have all been looking forward to. We are making plans for the children to return in regards to what they will be learning and also to ensuring continued safety for everyone in school.

It is very important that you read and understand the details in this letter as it outlines the arrangements for the return to school on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021** for all children to RMPA. The details are very similar to those we had in place before Christmas. The two exceptions to this are arrangements for children in F2 and the provision of hot school dinners for all year groups.

As has been the case over the past year, we have been working from government guidance which outlines the protective measures that schools should implement to control the spread of coronavirus.

From March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021, **attendance at school for all children from F2-Y6 will be compulsory**. The only exception to this is absence due to illness, covid symptoms or specialist medical appointments. We will be closely monitoring the attendance of all children and, if we have concerns regarding your child's attendance, we will implement supportive measures including the support of the Trust Attendance Officer and external attendance enforcement officers.

In order to continue to maintain the health and safety of all of our school community, we hope that you will continue to support us with the protective measures that we have in place.

- A one-way system for parents dropping off and picking up children will be in place.
- Face masks to be worn by **all** adults when dropping off and picking up children (unless you are exempt)
- Staggered start and finish times.

**As before we are taking all necessary steps as per government guidance to reduce the risk of the virus spreading in school.**

#### **Does my child need to wear uniform?**

Please ensure that your child has the correct clothing, including shoes, **wherever possible**. We appreciate that your child may have grown out of their uniform over the past few weeks and that you might be experiencing difficulties getting replacements. We have a stock of second-hand uniform in school in a variety of sizes which we can pass on to you should you wish. Please let us know if you have any queries relating to school uniform.



All children must have a full PE kit which they should wear to school on the days that they are timetabled to do PE.

### **What will happen if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus at school?**

If you or your child have any symptoms of coronavirus, you **must not** come on to the school site.

If a child becomes ill during the school day and shows one or more of the symptoms of coronavirus, they will be isolated in a room with adult supervision, the adult will wear PPE. Parents will be contacted to collect their child immediately. **It is imperative that we have up-to-date contact details for you.** A test should be administered and results shared with school as soon as they arrive.

If the test is negative, your child can return to school as soon as they are well enough.

If the test is positive, then further measures will apply as follows;

- Child with confirmed case should isolate for 7 days.
- Household members of the child with coronavirus should isolate for 10 days.
- All children and staff in the bubble of the child who is ill will be sent home to isolate for 10 days.
- If your child is sent home for a 10-day isolation, other household members can continue with normal, daily life e.g. siblings can continue to attend school.

If your child becomes ill at home and is not able to attend school, you must contact the school office to report their absence as normal. If your child's symptoms match any of those linked to coronavirus, you should seek a test immediately and report the outcome to school.

### **If my child can't attend school, will they have work to do?**

If there is a confirmed case of coronavirus and your child is not able to attend school, remote learning will be provided for all affected children via Seesaw.

We have a number of electronic devices which we are able to lend to you should your child need one to carry out their learning.

### **Will social distancing be applied in school?**

The government have recognised that early years and primary age children cannot be expected to socially distance from one another and their teachers. Older children will be encouraged to maintain a distance between each other; they should avoid any physical contact between themselves and adults. The way that the classrooms will be organised will support this.

The recommendation is that children are grouped in a way which means that the full curriculum can be delivered and in a way which is practicable for the school.

Staff are able to move between bubbles. Staff are encouraged to maintain distance between each other and children, where possible.



## **What are the arrangements for the start and end of the school day?**

To reduce contact between people at the busiest times of the school day, we will be operating a **strict one-way system** for parents dropping off and picking up children from school. Signs are placed around the school site to help you.

**Entrance** to the school site will be via the main gate, or side gate for F2 children, on Bonington Drive.

**All children in F2 will be learning in the Foundation Unit.**

**Exit** from the school site for most families will be via the back gate off Bentwell Avenue.

We will only be able to make exceptions for the use of the one-way system if you require alternative access arrangements. If you have a disability which will prevent you from using the one-way system, please contact Mrs Essex via the office email address and alternative arrangements will be made for you.

Please do not congregate around entrances and exits. If you drive your child to school, please park considerately. For health and safety reasons, please do not park in the staff carpark off Bentwell Avenue.

## **I have children in two bubbles with different timings – what should I do?**

You should drop your children off at the earliest time and collect them at the latest – so your children may be in school from 8:50 – 3:25. The teachers will provide activities for children to do in their classrooms for the additional time that they are in school such as reading or colouring.

**If your child is in F1** and they have a sibling in another class, please follow the start timings for the older child. You should drop off the older child first. **In this case, please use the one-way-system.**

## **Can my child have a hot dinner?**

We have worked hard to be able to create a system where any child who wishes to can have a hot dinner. Please contact the school office if you wish to order hot dinners for your child.

## **Does my child need to wear a mask to school?**

Your child does **not** need to wear a mask to school. Recent government guidance around the wearing of face coverings in school relates to students in secondary schools.

If you wish for your child to wear a mask in school, it must be plain with no writing on it and you must ensure that your child knows how to wear and remove one safely.

## **Devices**

If you have borrowed a device from school to support your child's learning at home, please can you arrange to return this to the school office between Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March.

## **Timings for the start and end of the day.**

Start and finish times are staggered for your safety and for the safety of your children. To avoid congestion, you should stick closely to these timings. Arriving late to school is not only disruptive to learning, it also not supportive of the health and safety control measures we are implementing.

Staff and signage will help you to locate the entrances to the classrooms.



Bubble	Year group	Teacher	Start/Finish	Door
1	All children in F1/Little Herons	Mrs Clark	8:45 – 11:45 12:15 – 3:15 8:45 – 3:15	Little Herons
<p>Only parents of children in Little Herons may use the back gate (off Bentwell Avenue) to enter and exit the site for drop offs. Parents must enter the site by this entrance <b>no later</b> than 8:50am for the morning drop-off.</p> <p>If you are late dropping for the morning session, you <b>must</b> use the main gate on Bonington Drive. If you arrive late to collect your child at 3:15, you <b>must</b> use the main gate on Bonington Drive.</p>				
2	F2	Miss Pankhania, Mr Steele, Mrs Illet and Miss Green	8:50 – 3:15	F2 unit entrance (Bonington Drive) – Please exit via the one-way system
Parents of children in Bubble 2 should enter the school site via the side gate on Bonington Drive				
3	Y1/2	Mrs Harris	9:00 – 3:25	Playground
4	Y1/2	Miss May	9:00 – 3:25	Playground
5	Nest	Mrs Williams, Mrs Farrell & Mrs Whittaker	8:50 – 3:15	Car Park entrance
6	Year 3	Mrs Taylor	8:50 – 3:15	Playground
7	Year 3/4	Mr Burton	8:50 – 3:15	Playground
8	Year 4	Mr Raven/Mrs King	8:50 – 3:15	Playground
9	Year 5	Mr Emsley	8:50 – 3:15	Bungalow
10	Year 5	Mrs Ross/Mrs Steel	9:00 – 3:25	Bungalow
11	Year 6	Mr Eggleston	9:00 – 3:25	Reception/School office

I appreciate that this is a long letter with lots of information. I ask that you please take time to read and digest the information so that the start of the new term runs as smoothly as possible.

We are very much looking forward to having all of your children back at school. We are grateful for all of the support that we receive from you all.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact us at the [office@robertmellors.org.uk](mailto:office@robertmellors.org.uk) email address or by telephone 0115 8408068.

Best wishes

Mrs Essex

