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"Be the best that you can be"

26th August 2020

Arrangements for full opening of school September 2020.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to update you on Priory's reopening strategy for September. Following further guidance issued during the Summer break, we have updated the school's risk assessment and slightly adjusted our plans. The following letter outlines the measures that we will be taking, most of which are the same as when I wrote to you in June. School will open to all children on **Wednesday the 2nd of September**.

Following careful reading of government guidelines and our experience during the partial reopening, the following adjustment to the 'normal' school day will be in place:

- ✚ Staggered start and finish times (outlined below)
- ✚ Staggered breaks – a rota and additional cleaning will provide safe access to spaces/equipment
- ✚ Staggered lunches (with some pupils eating in classrooms)
- ✚ No mixing of year groups - year group bubbles will ensure that workshops can still take place
- ✚ No assemblies as a whole school – class-based worship and virtual celebration worships
- ✚ Mindfulness daily
- ✚ All resources provided by school – no pencil cases from home
- ✚ Pupils to come to school in PE kits on PE days – class timetables to be provided by teachers
- ✚ Children sitting in rows. 2 to a desk. Facing forward
- ✚ Regular hand washing and sanitising
- ✚ Regular cleaning throughout the day and thorough cleaning at night
- ✚ Reduced contact between staff e.g. virtual staff training
- ✚ Virtual transition evenings
- ✚ No clubs during the Autumn term
- ✚ Track and trace for essential visitors

We know that this may seem extreme, but we have to follow the guidance and reduce the risk as much as we possibly can. I can assure you that the children will return to a loving and caring environment and as a school, all staff will work tirelessly to make the children feel as if nothing has changed.

To ensure that everyone feels part of #TeamPriory again, the whole school will take part in a unit of learning all about belonging, emotional wellbeing and togetherness for the first three weeks of term. This will be based around the text, 'The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse.' Additional support will be put into place, by staff within the year group, should anyone need emotional support following what has been a challenging and strange few months.

Resources to support children with addition needs or anxiety, coming back into school, have been provided on



the school website under the heading Covid. We will also be proving a pack, created by the Stoke Educational Psychology team later today.

Children will wear normal school uniform.

Packed lunches should follow the usual 'healthy eating' options and all children should bring a named water bottle, for use throughout the day, no disposable cups will be provided. The reduced menu that has been in operation for the last weeks in school will continue for the foreseeable future. We will send out this menu via Dojo next week, we hope to have it by Tuesday.

We have procedures in place if a suspected or confirmed case of coronavirus occurs and will contact families immediately based on the guidance.

We would request that older children, those in KS2 are left at the outer gates and walk to their classes alone, 5 minutes before their start time, but where younger children need adult assistance that only 1 adult drops off and collects. All adults should follow social distance guidance. We ask that all pupils go straight home after school and do not play on the school's play equipment.

Below is a schedule of staggered timings for drop off and collection. Once doors are closed, children will be directed to enter through the main reception. We will add additional staff to the gates to direct you to your new entry and collection points for the first week.

- Nursery – 9.00am at Nursery entrance. 3:00pm collection
- Reception (Sparkling Sparrows and Rocking Robins) – 8:45am at Reception classroom doors. 3:10pm collection
- Year 1 (Wonderful Willows and Magnificent Maples) - 9:00am at Year 1 classrooms doors. 3:15pm collection
- Year 2 (Outstanding Oaks and Brilliant Beeches) – 8:45am at Year 2 classroom doors, 3:00pm collection
- Year 3 (Downing Street and Trafalgar) – 8:45am at Year 3/4 doors. 3:00pm collection
- Year 4 (Park Lane and Waterloo) – 9:00am at Year 3/4 doors. 3:15pm collection
- Year 5 (Wimbledon and Wembley) – 8:45am at Year 5/6 doors. 3:00pm collection
- Year 6 (Paddington and Piccadilly) –9:00am at Year 5/6 doors. 3:15pm collection

We do appreciate that if you have children in more than one class this may be inconvenient, but ask that you wait in a safe place on the playground until all children are safely in.

Our plans will be reviewed weekly, daily in some cases to ensure that we can keep everyone as safe as possible. We may also have to make changes based on local or national changes, we will always update you of any changes. Our full risk assessment is available on the school website, should you wish to see it.

We appreciate this is a lot to take in, but I hope it provides you with enough information about how seriously we are taking both the safety of your children and their emotional wellbeing. If you wish to discuss this with me further please do not hesitate to contact me via Dojo or via email at jcunliffe@prioryceprimary.org

We can't wait for our Priory family to be back together next week.

Take Care,
Jenny

Mrs J Cunliffe
Deputy Headteacher



Guidance, used to inform planning:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/covid-19-shielding-guidance-children-young-people#children-who-should-be-advised-to-shield>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing#clinically-vulnerable-people>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

