



Moorlands Primary School

Winchester Road,
West Bromwich.
B71 2NZ

Phone: 0121 556 0352



July 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

It has been an incredibly difficult year for our Moorlands' family, parents, children and staff, so thank you for all your support throughout this pandemic. The changes that will be put in place from September will bring routine however, the school will not be the normal that children were used to. The children that have been in school have had no problems with these changes although I am aware that you or your child might have your own anxieties about returning to school. If you do have worries, please let us know so that we can help support you.

Re: Autumn term information

Based on the current Government guidelines school will re-open to all pupils on Thursday 3rd September. If Government guidelines change over the summer holidays, we will inform you of any changes to this information at the start of September.

In order for all children to return this has meant changes to how children arrive and leave school, an increase in cleaning regimes for classrooms and children, and changes to the routine of how the school functions daily.

Arriving and leaving school:

To help enable social distancing between parents, the school will operate staggered times for classes and a **one-way system**. This means that **all parents and children will enter through the Key Stage 2 entrance**. Children in **Years 3 and 4 will then enter school through the hall** and **Year 5 and 6 through the Key Stage 2 doors**. Children in Key Stage 1 will follow the route round through a cordoned off / barrier corridor of the car park and children in **Reception, Year 1 and 2 will go through the Key Stage 1 door**. All parents will then leave the school site through the **Key Stage 1 gate**. We ask that you drop off your children swiftly and it will be your responsibility to adhere to social distancing measures.

If you have more than one child in the school, we ask that you arrive at the first allotted time and drop off all of your children in stated year group entrance (this will prevent the need for adults to be waiting on the premises). On collection please pick them up at the latest time for your children, again from the stated entrances. These arrival and departure times will be reviewed regularly. Please be aware this may require queuing along Winchester Road pavement so that you filter in to maintain social distancing. We ask that parents show patience with this and we ask that you do not arrive before the time for your child; we politely also ask to show consideration for the residents of the street as well.

It is important that you drop off/ collect your child/ren quickly and at the allotted time to allow other classes to have the space to drop off/collect their child/ren whilst maintaining social distancing. Currently you will be unable to speak to the class teacher at the entrance however, Miss



Smith and myself will be available along the one-way route for any information that needs to be passed onto class teachers. The school office will also remain closed to parents, visitors and deliveries due to the size of the space, any letters can be sent in with the child. If you need to pass on any other information then please ring the office.

As your child enters and leaves the building they will sanitize their hands using our foot pumps.

The staggered times in September are:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Arrive	8.50	8.40	8.50	8.40	8.50	8.40
Depart	3.10	3.00	3.10	3.00	3.10	3.00

Medical information:

If you require your child to receive prescribed medication during the school day, a copy of the form can be downloaded from the school website so that you can complete the form before arriving at school. A paper copy can be requested and this will be sent with your child. Medication can be handed to Miss Smith and myself with the form when you drop off your child at school. Please can we also remind you to return in-date, clearly named inhalers and the consent form on the first day; these again should be given to Miss Smith or myself.

How will school look?

Based on the current Government guidelines, children will be in class bubbles; these social groupings will be the children that they will be in contact with throughout the day. Children will be provided with their own stationary pack so will only need to bring a coat, bag if needed, a snack for break time (we encourage this to be a healthy snack), a packed lunch if they are sandwiches and drinks bottle. P.E. kits will only need to be brought on their designated day and then taken home – we will inform you of P.E. days in September. In school, children will wash and sanitize their hands regularly throughout the day, before and after break times and when they have been to the toilet.

At break times children will play with their class. Break times will be staggered and they will have their own set of play equipment which will be regularly sanitized. The gym equipment in Key Stage 1 and 2 currently will not be able to be used.

Dinnertimes:

As children need to remain in their social groupings, the way that dinner times work will change. Dinner times will be staggered across the school to reduce social contact between classes and children will eat their dinner in their classroom. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 you are entitled to a universal free school meal; if you are years 3 to 6 and are entitled to a free school meal this will be provided. Mellors will provide a sandwich option and a hot meal option which will be delivered to their classroom. (Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September only a sandwich option is available). The use of the dinner hall will be reviewed in line with Government guidance. Children will still have access to the playgrounds at dinner time although this is staggered so that classes are out at different times.

Please do not send in any food products that contain nuts due to allergies of pupils within the school.



Curriculum:

The first week in school will focus on nurture and ensuring that children's worries and anxieties are catered for. We will also check your child's fluency for reading so that we can ensure that they are able to bring home the correct reading book. It is really important that you hear your child read regularly as this impacts on all curriculum areas. The class teachers have already met with your child's current class teacher so that they are aware of the learning that was not completed due to the lockdown. This will be the focus for the first term so that your child does not end up with gaps in their learning and where year group objectives overlap, class teachers will use this as an opportunity to teach both year groups learning. For example, the teaching of adverbs appears in all year groups from Year 1, prefixes and suffixes etc.

Assemblies will still occur in school for pupils only although, these will be done remotely so that all classes can access the assembly at the same time.

Children in Years 5 and 6 will also have additional computing teaching so that they are able to learn how to access online live lessons. This is a skill that will be needed in secondary schools and will help with their transition.

Breakfast club:

Currently Breakfast club will not operate in the first couple of weeks. This will be reviewed as I know that some parents had started to use this facility from when it commenced in January. If you require breakfast club, please let us know so that when we are able to re-start this we can contact you directly.

After School Club:

In September, the only after school club that will operate the first half term will be a multi-skills club by the Albion Foundation. To ensure that different social groupings do not mix this will only be for Year 6. The following half term it will be for Year 5.

COVID-19 information for bubbles – Government guidelines:

All schools expect that at some time during this academic year there is the potential for classes / school to be closed if there are suspected COVID cases therefore, it is important that the school and parents work closely together to minimise the impact of this. The school will follow the current advice from public health if this is the case.

Government guidance:

There are certain approaches that the government has asked schools to implement which are essential to reduce health risks. Parents and carers can support this by:

- ensuring that anyone who has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or has someone in their household who does, does not attend school - this means if your child, or someone in your household, has symptoms you should not send them to school
- engaging with the NHS Test and Trace process so that cases can be identified and action taken - this means if your child develops symptoms, you should arrange for them to [get a test](#) and you should inform your school of the results of that test
- managing confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the school, in line with current public health guidance - this means your child may be asked to self-isolate for 14 days by their school



(based on advice from their local health protection teams) if they have been in close, face-to-face contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus

- If a school experiences an outbreak, either because they have 2 or more confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) among pupils or staff in their setting within 14 days, or they see an increase in pupil or staff absence rates due to suspected or confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19), they will need to contact their local health protection team. This team will advise if additional action is required, though the closure of the whole school will generally not be necessary.
- Where an outbreak in a school is confirmed, a mobile testing unit may be dispatched to test others who may have been in contact with the person who has tested positive. Testing will first focus on the person's class, followed by their year group, then the whole school, if necessary.
- If your local area sees a spike in infection rates that is resulting in localised community spread, decisions will be made on what measures to implement to help contain the spread. The government will be involved in decisions and will support individual schools and colleges to follow the health advice.
- In all cases, where groups of pupils need to self-isolate or where a larger restriction of attendance at school is needed, your child's school should seek to ensure children and young people's education can continue remotely.
- <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 if my child is unwell / feels sick?

- If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.
- If your child becomes unwell at school or is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, following Government guidance, staff will have to isolate your child from others. You will receive a phone call for you to come and collect your child. Please follow the current Government guidelines in relation to self-isolation and medical advice.
- Please do not send your child to school if they are displaying any of the symptoms of COVID-19 as they will have to be sent home.

As the Local Authority has been working with all schools in Sandwell, please find attached a letter to explain the full opening of schools from Sandwell's Director of Education.

Moorlands staff and governors thank you for all the support you have given us over these difficult weeks. As you are part of our Moorlands family, please let us know if you need any support.

Kind Regards

Mrs. K Roberts

