



Roots to grow, wings to fly

Tel: 01889 590203
www.dove.staffs.sch.uk

1st March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are delighted to be welcoming all pupils back to school on Monday 8th March.

We remain extremely proud of our school community and the way they have adapted time and time again during the course of the pandemic.

Pupils and families who have been completing home learning have done a brilliant job which has helped to keep continuity of education.

Pupils and families who have been attending school have worked hard and followed our safety procedures to ensure our school community has remained safe and well.

We have updated our risk assessments and procedures again in light of the most recent Government guidance and this letter sets out the measures which will be in place from the 8th March 2021.

Bubbles – Children will return to their usual class groups and will be taught in these groups. These groups will not mix with other groups. School staff will remain with their usual class group – staff will not cross bubbles unless it is necessary to do so e.g. to provide first aid or cover staff absence. Regular handwashing will continue when entering and leaving the classroom, before and after eating, at break times and toileting. Within each bubble, books, games and classroom resources will be used and shared but will only be used by children within that group. There will be regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces. Generic resources that are shared between bubbles, such as P.E. and I.T. equipment, will be sanitised and cleaned rigorously.

Book bags – It is still important that we limit the amount of equipment children are bringing in and out of school. Children can bring book bags, a water bottle, lunch boxes and fruit for afternoon snack. Please do not allow children to bring any other unnecessary items. Children will be given a reading book which they need to bring each day.

Start and end times – in order to reduce the number of people on the school site we will continue to stagger school start and end times see below. Please stick closely to these times and avoid arriving early and waiting on site. If you have siblings in different classes please bring them at the earlier time and collect at the earlier time.

Staggered drop off and collection times				
Class	Robins	Blackbirds	Owls	Eagles
Start time	9am	8.50am	8.55am	8.45am
End time	3.00pm Friday 12.50pm	3.10pm Friday 12.50pm	3.15pm Friday 1.00pm	3.00pm Friday 1.00pm

We will continue to close the school on a Friday afternoon to undertake a deep clean of the school. This has worked well throughout the pandemic and has enabled us to ensure the health and safety of our pupils and staff. Children will have their lunch in school as normal and then need to be collected at the times shown above. We will continue to provide wrap around care for pupils who do not have any alternative child care on a Friday afternoon. Please contact the school office by 5th March to book a place in the wrap around care group.

Uniform – Pupils will be required to wear full school uniform when they return to school. This includes sensible black flat shoes. Classrooms will continue to be ventilated naturally, through opening windows and doors, please ensure children have extra layers if the weather is cold.

P.E. kits – Reminder: PE kits consist of socks, black or blue jogging bottoms / shorts, a white T-shirt, a school jumper and trainers or plimsoles. For health and safety reasons ALL long hair must be tied up and earrings must be taken out before school or the child must be able to remove their own earrings – staff cannot remove them. The requirement for each class is slightly different.

Eagles – Please bring in your PE kit in a bag with your name on. This will be kept in school all week in order that PE can be done on any day of the week. P.E. kits will be sent home on a Friday to be washed and returned for Monday.

Owls – Children are asked to come to school dressed in their PE kits on the days that they have PE – Tuesday and Thursday.

Blackbirds - Children are asked to come to school dressed in their PE kits on the days that they have PE – Tuesday and Thursday.

Robins – Children are asked to bring a pair of trainers / plimsoles to keep in school. Children can change in to these when they do PE in school.

Adults on school site – It is important that we continue to minimise the number of people on site and to reduce contact between people. Therefore please adhere to the staggered start and end times. Please do not congregate on the school grounds and maintain social distancing when waiting to drop off or collect pupils. If you have younger children with you at drop off or collection please ensure the children stay with you and do not mix with other groups

Parents and carers will still be asked to wear face coverings when on the school grounds.

Parents will not be able to visit the school office, if you need to speak to school staff please send a message on Tapestry, pass a message to the member of staff on the gate or contact the school office to arrange a phone conversation at an appropriate time. Please note the office will be open for phone calls 8.15am – 8.45am, 9.15am – 11.45am, 19m-3pm.

COVID-19 symptoms and isolation – Pupils **must not** come into school if:

- they have one or more coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- a member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- they are required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area
- they have had a positive test

Pupils must immediately cease to attend and not attend for at least 10 days from the day after:

- the start of their symptoms
- the test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (whether this was a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test)

If any pupil develops a new and 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 to begin isolation - the isolation period includes the day the symptoms started and the next 10 full days
- must follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection
- must arrange to have a test as soon as possible to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)

Other members of their household (including any siblings and members of their support or childcare bubble if they have one) should self-isolate. Their isolation period includes the day symptoms started for the first person in their household, or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms, whether this was a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test), and the next 10 full days.

If a member of the household starts to display symptoms while self-isolating they will need to restart the 10 day isolation period and book a test.

If anyone tests positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they must restart the 10 day isolation period from the day they developed symptoms.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

We look forward to seeing all of our pupils next week.

Best wishes

Mrs Fabi and the Dove team

Kindness - Respect - Perseverance - Honesty - Self control - Forgiveness