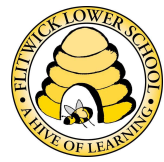


FLITWICK LOWER SCHOOL

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Return to School Autumn 2020

I am sure you have all been following the news regarding the opening of schools in September for all pupils. This is something that we have planning for, for a number of months now. The opening of school to Foundation and Year 1 pupils in June was very successful and we have taken lots of positives from this to ensure the safe opening in school for all pupils in September. I am now able to share with you some of the measures we will be implementing. I may need to update these further as the government publish new guidance but we are planning to open to all pupils in Years 1-4 from the 7th September and we will be welcoming our new starters in Foundation from the 21st September.

The government has published guidance on a full opening of school from September 2020. Full information can be found by clicking on this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

As stated in the guidance, it is vitally important, that if you feel unwell with COVID like symptoms, you self-isolate and notify us as soon as you or someone in your household starts to feel unwell.

From September, the following structure will be in place:

Bubbles – to minimise any risk of cross contamination, we will remain in class and year group bubbles.

Entry and Exits – the entry and exit system has worked very well since lockdown and we will continue with the same plan along with differentiated start and end of school times. i.e. Parents/Carers will therefore be expected to enter from Temple Way and exit onto either Dunstable Road or Pippit Close in the morning. This system will be the same at the end of the day.

Start times – Staff will be in place, ready to welcome the children back, and supervise them in thoroughly washing their hands before entering the classroom.

Beginning and end of the day – The school has one entry gate and 2 exit points.

Entry

- **Main entrance on Temple way = entry point for all year groups**
- Foundation children will enter via the classroom doors
- Year 1 courtyard gate = Year 1 (Pandas and Polar bears) – once through the main gate turn left through the car park and enter the grounds via the green gate at the end of the office ramp.
- Year 2 and Year 3 children will enter via the classroom doors
- Year 4 children will enter via the classroom doors

Exit

- Year 4 and Foundation parents will exit via **Pipit Close**
- Years 1, 2 and 3 children will exit via **Dunstable Close**



The school will have two start and finish times:

	Start	Finish
Group A	08.40am	15.10am
Group B	09.00am	15.30am

The year groups will be split in half, with one class in each of the groups. I will endeavour to ensure siblings are in the same groupings.

Group A - 8.40 – 3.10pm	Group B - 9am – 3.30pm	
Turtles	Dolphins	
Pandas	Polar Bears	
Snow Leopards	Jaguars	
Lions	Tigers	
Elephants	Rhinos	

*Where there are siblings in other year groups, please be advised staff will ensure these children are ready when you pick up to minimise disruptions and ensure social distancing measures are maintained.

In addition to this, we have reflected on what has worked well and the following things will apply for the foreseeable future:

Uniform will be worn but not on days when the children have PE (this will ensure that the uniform is regularly washed during the week).

PE Kit – on the days when children have PE they will be expected to come to school wearing PE kit and remain in it all day, i.e. Joggers, Sweatshirt, Trainers etc.

Coats – will be kept on the back of chairs, where possible, to keep cloakroom areas clear and avoid unnecessary contact between children/adults.

Classrooms – children must have their own pencil cases and be responsible for their own equipment. They will only be allowed to bring a book bag into school. If they bring a different bag it will not be allowed and given back to you at the door as we have limited space available.

Tables – will be sanitised regularly and at the end of every day by the staff. Children will have specific seats. All tables will be front facing with 2 children to a desk with their trays in front of them.

Water Bottles – All children **MUST** bring a named water bottle and these will be kept in the designated space.

Cleaning will be increased and staff will work within a set bubble only.

Toilets – we will maintain social distancing around the toilets, children will wait on the distance markers outside the toilets and will be supervised by staff. Depending on the size of the toilets only 1 or 2 children will be allowed in the toilets at any one time, with the exception of Early Years, but this will need to be closely monitored. External doors will be left open, thus minimising cross contamination. These are cleaned after each group has used them.

Lunchtimes – will be staggered to ensure that social distancing is observed wherever possible. Initially, we will be offering packed lunches only (you can either order one from school or provide your own) to enable us to manage the larger numbers of children and minimise cross contamination, whilst ensuring that the children remain in their bubble. As we move on we will begin to introduce hot lunches in a way that enables us to keep the children safe.

Packed Lunches (if being provided by home) – If possible, these should be brought in a disposable bag which will be stored in the classroom. If a packed lunch box is brought this will also be stored in class.

Bins for paper towels will be open topped to minimise cross contamination through constant touching.



Visits will not run for the foreseeable future and visitors will be strictly limited according to essential need.

Breakfast Club/After School Club – These will run with limited capacity, the children will be in two groups using 2 classroom areas to minimise mixed groups and to encourage social distancing.

Clubs will be confirmed in the first half term once new routines are established. These are most likely to be offered to classes or year groups to minimise crossing groups.

First Aid will be administered by staff in their bubbles, except in exceptional circumstances.

Illness – if anyone is suspected of being ill, particularly with coughs, colds etc. it is recommended that they are sent home. Extra vigilance is essential if we think someone is displaying Covid-19 symptoms and anyone with these symptoms will be isolated in the medical room and sent home as soon as possible.

If your child is not well in the morning, please do not send them into school.

A flow chart will be available on the school website which outlines the steps and expectations regarding anyone displaying symptoms. It is extremely important that you follow the guidelines and inform the school immediately if anyone in your family is displaying symptoms.

The guidance states that: Schools must ensure that staff members and parents/carers understand that they will need to be ready and willing to:

- ❖ [book a test](#) if they or their child are displaying symptoms. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents/carers if using a home testing kit. Tests can be booked online through the NHS [testing and tracing for coronavirus website](#), or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet.
- ❖ provide details of anyone they or their child have been in close contact with if they test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
- ❖ [self-isolate](#) if they have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), or if anyone in their household develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

Social distancing expectations

- Outside of the classroom, as much as is reasonably possible, it is expected that everyone will keep socially distanced and respect each other's space. This will be reinforced as a matter of priority in all classes.
- There will be limited movement within the school building, children will access the hall for PE when it is not possible to use the outside spaces. They will access the ICT area in small groups from within their class bubble. They will be escorted by an adult when moving around the building. They will not be using the Library until January at the earliest.
- Inside the classroom, everyone will be expected to keep areas clean, tidy and properly wiped down on a regular basis. All resources will be in their individual trays on the tables to minimise movement around the classroom.
- In all cases common sense will be used for the safety and wellbeing of all.

You can help us by:

- Signing and agreeing to the Home Partnership Covid-19 document (this will be sent home in September)
- Keeping your child at home if they seem unwell.
- Informing us of any illness which could potentially be Covid-19, i.e. loss of taste/smell, temperature, new persistent cough. *Key information is expected to be shared with the Local Authority to ensure the safety of all within our locality.
- Communicating via telephone or email and avoiding coming into school office.

In the current climate, government guidance is updated regularly and this may mean that changes to provision need to be made. I will communicate any changes to you as soon as is feasibly possible.



I look forward to seeing you on Monday 7th September ready for the start of the autumn term. (Remember new Foundation children start the week commencing 21st September).

Kind regards

Mrs New
Head Teacher

