

# Cupernham Infant School

*Together we care, we learn and we enjoy success*

Headteacher: Mr Duncan Wells



Monday 20th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

## **RE: September Full Re-opening Arrangements**

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents and carers for the support you have given the school during this difficult time. The recent partial school closure has challenged us all and the staff appreciate all that you have done to support your child's learning during this time.

'It is our plan that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term.' DfE Guidance for full opening: schools

'The measures set out in this guidance provide a framework for school leaders to put in place proportionate protective measures for children and staff, which also ensure that all pupils receive a high quality education that enables them to thrive and progress.' DfE Guidance for full opening: schools

Following the Government announcement two weeks ago and their subsequent guidance for schools, I am pleased to be able to confirm that we are looking forward to welcoming all children back in September for the start of the new academic year. Our first two days back, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> September, will be INSET days for staff training and then following this, the new term will start for all children on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

I understand that many parents and carers may feel anxious about their child returning to school following this period of partial closure. Below, you will find more information about how the school day will be organised and the changes that we need to make in order to operate within the government guidance.

## **Who can now attend school and from when?**

**All** children who are on the school roll must attend school from Monday 7th September.

Children cannot attend if they, or a family member they live with, have symptoms of Covid-19 or where a positive test has been confirmed. You should follow the advice for self-isolation and only send your child back to school at the end of this period. You must inform the school via email [adminoffice@cupernham-inf.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@cupernham-inf.hants.sch.uk) if this is the case. It is essential that you inform us of any positive confirmation of Covid-19.

If you are concerned about your child's health and the implications for their return, then please discuss this with both the school and your child's healthcare professionals.

**Bransley Close, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 7JT**

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## **Class Organisation**

Your child's new class and class teacher has already been communicated to you in a previous letter.

From September, children will be working in class sized 'learning pods'. They will spend the majority of the time working solely with this group in their classroom. The only exception to this will be during phonics sessions when some children may be drawn from other pods, but socially distanced using designated areas.

Due to the layout of our Yr. R building and the focus on outdoor and free flow learning, Yr. R children will be based in their class as much as possible however a year group learning pod approach will be adopted.

We will continue to adopt the learning pod approach. Social distancing will not be enforced in the same way as it is in wider public circulation, but a sense of distancing and awareness of personal space will be promoted wherever possible.

During outdoor breaktimes and lunchtimes, children will be able to play across their year groups/key stage, but will be taught about the importance of limiting physical contact. Children will have staggered breaks throughout the day and the outdoor learning environment will be used as much as possible.

We will be working with the children to positively reinforce the essential safety and hygiene measures, such as, regular handwashing, no physical touching and social distancing. We will always try to maintain safe distancing in school but please be aware this will be challenging, especially with our younger children and this is recognised in the government guidance to schools.

## **Cleaning/Health and Safety**

We continue to ensure that we have a number of hygiene controls in place across the school to ensure the safety of children.

Our cleaning schedule has increased to ensure more regular and deeper cleaning throughout the school day. Children will wash their hands as they enter school in the morning and at break / lunchtimes. As always, they will be required to wash their hands after visiting the toilet and before eating their lunch.

We have had to review our classroom environments and resources and remove many items. As these are tricky to clean, all soft furnishings and cushions will be removed from the classrooms. There is no expectation that staff will routinely wear face coverings. However, staff may wear PPE in very specific circumstances.

Please also note that, especially with our younger children, it is possible that a member of our staff may have to comfort your child if they become distressed.

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## **Lunchtime**

Universal free school meals will continue to be provided for children in Reception, Yr. 1 and Year 2. For the first half term, we will only be providing a healthy hot packed lunch option and vegetarian and special diets will be accommodated. If you do not wish for your child to have a school meal, they will need to be provided with their own healthy balanced packed lunch, ensuring that all items can be disposed of, including the lunch bag itself. Please remember we are a NUT FREE school.

We understand that family circumstances may have changed since we went into lockdown back in March, so if you feel that you now qualify for pupil premium and free school meals, please visit <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals/juniorsecondary> to check your eligibility.

## **What will children need to bring/wear?**

Your child should wear school uniform as normal. Full school uniform expectations remain, including black school shoes. Trainers are not part of our uniform. Your child will need to bring a book bag, a coat and (where necessary) sunhat/cap. On particularly sunny days, please apply sun cream to your child's skin before they come to school.

A PE kit will be required on the days when your child is scheduled to have a PE lesson, it will then be sent home the same day. Your class teacher will communicate the arrangements at the start of the new term. Also, please provide your child with a named water bottle that they can use for water throughout the day. This will need to be taken home and brought back each day.

## **The start/end of the day**

In order to reduce the number of people at the school gates, we have staggered start times and finish times. It is essential that we have a steady flow of pedestrians on and off of the school site to avoid overcrowding and large gatherings. Please can we ensure that these times are adhered to at all times. Also, if children are queuing on the pathway, please do not overtake, even if you are entering the building via an alternate gate / doorway.

Our school has been split in three groups, with one class from each year group (Yr. R to 2) in each of group: Group A, Group B and Group C. See the staggered start and drop off table below to match the group with your class.

The new Yr. R children, for the first two weeks, have been given their specific drop off and collection times, as their start to the term is half days for the first two weeks. We will communicate updated staggered timings for these two weeks separately via email.

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## Staggered Start / Finish Times

**Group A** - 8:40am - 3:10pm    **Group B** - 8:50am - 3:20pm    **Group C** - 9:00am - 3:30pm

GROUP	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	Wraparound Care
Class Pod	Wrens Yr. R	Penguins Yr. R	Sparrows Yr. R	Hummingbirds Yr. 1	Robins Yr. 1	Woodpeckers Yr. 1 & 2	Kingfishers Yr. 2	Nightingales Yr. 2	Hall Yr. R-2
Drop off Time	8.40am	8.50am	9.00am	8.40am	8.50am	9.00am	8.40am	8.50am	7.45am – 8.45am
Collection time	3.10am	3.20pm	3.30pm	3.10am	3.20pm	3.30pm	3.10am	3.20pm	3.10pm - 6.00pm

It is important that we ask that only one adult accompanies your child at drop off and collection times. You will need to follow the one-way system into the playground and exit through the small gate on the playground.

Where families are travelling to school using public transport, please contact school to discuss any issues with start and end times if these pose a problem.

## Wraparound Care Provision

From Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September, we will be operating our breakfast and afterschool club provision. The DfE states that ideally schools should keep to the learning pods as during the school day, but recognise that this may not be possible. Therefore, the children will be grouped in **small consistent year group pods** for both sessions.

If you have not already sent through your requests for wraparound care to the office, please can you do so as soon as you can. The office will then contact you from 3<sup>rd</sup> September with, booking arrangements.

For your information, **Earlybirds** operate from 7.45am - 8.50am. Please use the main gate and drop off child at the door by the pre-school building. You will need to ring the bell and wait for an adult to collect your child.

**Cuckoos** runs from 3.20pm -5.00pm with an additional cost for 5.00pm– 6.00pm. When collecting, please use the main gate, collect at the same door used for dropping off. You will need to ring the bell, wait for an adult to bring your child to the door and then sign them out. You will then leave via the main gates.

Our **Larks** drop off provision will not be available at the beginning of term, but will be reviewed later in the term.

## Visiting the school

At the start of the school year, we will only be accepting visitors by prearrangement. This includes parents and carers. You should not come to the school office in the first instance, but should make contact by phone or email. If you do need to visit the school, it is essential that you let us know in advance and gain agreement of the school. We will review this position throughout the term as social distancing guidance is reviewed.

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## **Attendance**

The Government has confirmed that attendance at school is statutory and parents/carers have a legal duty to ensure that their child attends. We will follow our normal protocol for following up on non-attendance. If you wish to discuss attendance with the school, please contact us so that we can work together to meet this requirement. If you go on holiday at the end of the summer break and have to follow quarantine arrangements, you should let the school know that this is the reason for your child's absence.

## **Cashless School Office**

From September our school will be cashless. This means that all payments will need to be made via SCOPay. Our new Yr. R parents will receive a unique code in the first week of term. Any questions please contact the school office.

## **Next Steps**

Before your child returns to school, we need to ensure that all of your contact details are up-to-date. If they have changed, please contact the school office so these can be updated ready for September. You can find further information including maps and directions for dropping off, picking up and wraparound care up on our website at <https://www.cupernhaminfant.com/>

The return to school is subject to the government's confirmation during the summer break. If our plan has to change, we will confirm this with you, otherwise we look forward to welcoming your child back on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you again for your continued support and cooperation at this difficult time.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Duncan Wells  
Headteacher

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