



DROPMORE INFANT SCHOOL

Littleworth Road

Dropmore, Burnham SL1 8PF

Tel: 01753 644403

E-Mail: office@dropmore.bucks.sch.uk

www.dropmoreinfant.eschools.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs G Streete

3rd March 2021

Dear parents,

We are really looking forward to welcoming all our pupils back on **Monday 8th March** and have been busy preparing the school. We have been updating procedures and risk assessments to ensure this happens in a way that reduces risk and is safe for our pupils and staff.

As promised in my letter last week, I will provide you with the necessary information for the full reopening of the school. There will be changes to the procedure in place before, so please make sure you have read and understood everything. As always, if anything is unclear or if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly using head@dropmore.school

Whole School Bubble

- Each year group uses their own classroom with their own outdoor learning area and outdoor access for entering and accessing school. Pupils will be learning in class sized bubbles when indoors.
- All children will be able to enjoy playtime and lunchtime together outside. Wet play will be in individual classrooms.
- The children will have lunch together, outside if the weather permits, but in a well-ventilated hall with allocated seats by year group if not. We will be serving hot lunches 4 days/week and sandwich lunch 1 day/week.
- Toilet facilities will be shared during playtime and lunchtime, monitored by staff on duty. During lesson time each year group has their own toilet facilities assigned.
- All staff and pupils will follow strict hygiene control measures at all times.
- Staff will wear masks in central and shared areas and complete Lateral Flow Device testing (LFD) twice a week.

Drop-off / Collection and Parking

We will continue with a staggered drop-off and collection timetable with strict parking rules. You will be given a 15-minute window for drop-off and collection.

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| • Reception: | Drop-off 8:45-9:00am | Pick-up 3:00-3:15pm |
| • Year 1 & Year 2 | Drop-off 9:00-9:15am | Pick-up 3:15-3:30pm |

We ask that **siblings** are dropped off together at 9am and collected together at 3:15pm

As we have many families dropping off and collecting it is important that you stick to the time window given. If you arrive before your time window, please park at the Jolly Woodman until your time slot. This will allow all parents in their time window to use the limited parking spaces available.

As a healthy school and in support of our School Travel Plan we encourage those who can to walk to school, or to park and walk from the Jolly Woodman.



If you are not able to walk or park and walk, the following parking rules apply:

- ONLY park on Littleworth Road or Wooburn Common Road
- DO NOT park in disabled bay
- DO NOT park on yellow zigzag lines
- DO NOT park on Dropmore Road
- Wait in Jolly Woodman Car Park until your time slot
- Drive away immediately after dropping off or collection

It is of utmost importance that social distancing rules are adhered to by following our one-way system. Because our parents park on both Littleworth Road and Wooburn Common Road, people will arrive from 2 directions. Please ensure you (and any other adults involved in school drop-off and collection) are familiar with the drop-off and collection expectations and use the yellow arrows on the picture when arriving at school and red arrows on the picture when walking back to your car.



All children will be dropped off by the 5-bar gate where a member of the bubble staff will be ready to welcome them.

Please wear a face mask when dropping off and collecting your child. Do not approach the 5-bar gate if you are not wearing a face mask!

Please do not stop to talk to other parents, however difficult this may be. We must be vigilant, maintain social distancing and leave promptly after dropping off or collecting.

Please do not stop to talk to staff when dropping off your child. If there is any important information that needs to be passed on, please email or call the school office and your message will be passed on.

If your child is reluctant to walk into school and struggles with the separation at drop off you will be asked to try again later, either by joining the end of the queue or by returning at an agreed time when bubble staff will be available to try again. Unfortunately, staff are unable to take a child from you, due to social distancing rules. We will work with you to encourage your child to come into school.

Collection arrangements are the same as the drop-off arrangements. Please stick to the time slot given and follow the markers on the pavement. Your child will be handed over as you approach the 5-bar gate.

The School Day and Social Distancing:

The overarching priority during each day will be the health and well-being of all those in school: this includes plenty of communication about good hygiene and feeling safe, including reminders of important rules. There will be lots of handwashing, so if your child suffers with dry skin please send in a pot of cream that can be kept in their tray, they will be asked to apply this after thoroughly cleaning and drying their hands

We will be implementing focussed weeks up until Easter, allowing us to tailor the curriculum to the needs of our children. The first week back will focus on wellbeing. More information about curriculum content will follow later this week. We will continue to educate our children (at an age appropriate level) about the current Government Guidelines regarding social distancing and good hygiene to prepare them for the world around them both inside and outside of school. We will allow our children to interact as they normally would and put other control measures in place.

Below is a list of some of the things put in place to keep your child safe:

- Children will be outside as much as possible
- Year 1 and Year 2 children will have their own personal resources (pencil case, scissors, glue, ruler, Numicon etc.).
- Children will be reminded of and taught safe hygiene practices (wash hands, sneeze, cough)
- Children will wash their hands or use hand gel on arrival at school, after using the toilet, after breaks and activities, before eating (incl snacks), before leaving school, after coughing or sneezing
- Child friendly poster reminders are on display in all classrooms and toilets.
- All classrooms and toilets have soap and handtowels and/or hand gel for regular handwashing.
- Classrooms are provided with lidded pedal bins for tissues.
- Shared classroom resources will be cleaned after use or stored for at least 72 hours.
- No clutter in classrooms, excess furniture has been removed.
- Classrooms will be cleaned regularly throughout the day (own set of cleaning products).
- Classrooms and other learning spaces will be well ventilated (door and/or windows open).
- Shared spaces available for class-based use, will be cleaned immediately after use.
- Adventure playground and playground equipment available for use, children wash hands before and after use.
- Sandpit and water fountains are out of use.
- Access to school site by appointment only (this applies to parents and visitors)
- School office available by email or telephone only.
- School staff available via school office.

After school clubs

Following a review of our risk assessment and taking into consideration many factors, we have decided to start our after school clubs in the Summer Term. We are looking forward to offering the full range of clubs again in the Summer Term, subject to further government announcements. More information on what will be offered and how to sign up will be sent out on Monday 22nd March.

Uniform

The children should come to school in their PE kit on PE days. These are currently timetabled as follows:

- Reception - Thursday
- Year 1 & Year 2 - Wednesday and Friday

All other days the children should come into school in full school uniform.

We ask each child to bring in a spare uniform set, preferably PE kit (plain polo shirt allowed), as well as their plimsoles, to be kept at school for 'emergencies' and sent home when used.

Please also ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and always has a jumper or cardigan at school. The school will be well ventilated and the classrooms do get cold.

What to bring to school

- Children must bring in their **bookbags** daily.
- Children must bring in their **named Dropmore water bottle** daily (water fountains are out of use). Please DO NOT put water bottles inside the bookbag!
- Children must bring in a **sun hat** and/or **raincoat** (based on weather forecast)
- Do **not** bring in **sun cream**, but do apply sun cream at home, before school
- On the first day, the children must bring in their **Mile-a-Day shoes**
- On their first day, the children must bring in a **change of uniform**, preferably PE kit, (including underwear, socks and plimsoles)
- Children may bring in a small pot/tube of **hand cream** if needed (this will stay at school in their tray)
- Do **not** bring in any **toys or items from home**

Reading Books

Reading books will be changed and sent home twice a week only, on Mondays and Thursdays. They will be quarantined for at least 72 hours before re-use. Staff will be washing their hands before and after handling the reading books and reading diaries.

Attendance

School attendance will be **mandatory** from 8th March and the usual rules on school attendance will apply: parents have a duty to ensure their child attends and schools have a responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence.

Where children are not able to attend due to following clinical or public health advice, this will not be penalised and remote education will continue to be provided. Schools must report these absences separately, so it is important that we are informed of these situations accurately and promptly.

What if a child or household member displays coronavirus symptoms at home?

- If **a child** displays corona virus symptoms, they must be kept at home and self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of the symptoms. Ensure the child is tested immediately and report back to school.
- If **someone in the child's household** displays corona virus symptoms, the child must be kept at home and self-isolate for 10 days. Ensure the person with symptoms is tested immediately and follow the government guidance.

For the latest *Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection*, please click [here](#).

What if a child displays Coronavirus symptoms at school?

If a child displays Coronavirus symptoms at school, they will be isolated in the hall with a member of staff and a parent will be asked to collect them immediately. The member of staff looking after them will be wearing PPE (mask, gloves and apron) and the area will be deep cleaned afterwards.

We ask the parents to ensure their child is tested immediately and report back to school with the results, self-isolating during this period.

- If the test is negative, the child can come back to school.
- If the test is positive:
 - The child and their household must continue their self-isolation in accordance with government guidelines. Click [here](#) for a link to the latest guidance.
 - The school will contact PHE and follow their advice.
 - The rest of the bubble will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. Other household members of the bubble group do not need to self-isolate, unless the pupil/staff they live with subsequently develops symptoms.

Risk Management

We know this continues to be a worrying time for parents and staff. I would like to assure you that we have worked hard to minimize the number of contacts during the school day and maximise the control measures, thus making the school a low risk environment for staff and pupils. Despite everything we have put in place, there will remain an element of risk and it is important that you are aware of this.

What you MUST do:

- ⇒ Please ensure you (and any other adult involved in school drop-off and collection) are familiar with the content of this letter and the new rules and procedures introduced.
- ⇒ Please adhere to all procedures and rules set out in this letter.
- ⇒ Please talk to us about any questions or concerns you may have head@dropmore.school or 01753 644403.

MOST IMPORTANTLY:

Please maintain social distancing and adhere to government guidelines. If your child or anyone in their household displays symptoms or tested positive, **DO NOT** bring your child into school. If you are not following these guidelines, you will be putting your child and the other children and staff at risk.

TRAVEL

If you have travelled you must follow government guidelines. **DO NOT** bring your child to school! Contact the school instead for further advice and absence recording.

We do hope this letter has addressed many of your questions and concerns and that you feel re-assured about sending your child to school. We will review the situation continually and will communicate any changes promptly. If you have any further questions regarding this letter please do not hesitate to contact me directly using head@dropmore.school.

We are all looking forward to welcoming you back on Monday 8th March!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Streete
Headteacher