



DROPMORE INFANT SCHOOL

Littleworth Road

Dropmore, Burnham SL1 8PF

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www.dropmoreinfant.eschools.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs G Streete

24th August 2020

Dear parents,

At the start of July, the government announced the plan that all pupils in all year groups will return to full time education from the beginning of the autumn term. We are really looking forward to welcoming all our pupils back and have been busy preparing the school and 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 at the end of last term, I will provide you with the necessary information for the full reopening of the school. Because we will have many more pupils attending, 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 headteacher@dropmore.bucks.sch.uk

Bubble Approach

- We will continue to use a bubble approach, where each year group / class is a bubble of up to 25 pupils with 2 members of staff. Bubble staff will not be assigned to other classes unless absolutely necessary.
- As before, each classroom has their own outdoor learning area and outdoor access.
- When indoors, the children will not mix during the school day.
- Reception will have their own playtime. Year 1 and Year 2 will share playtime outside.
- Reception will have their own toilets. Year 1 and 2 will use the corridor toilets, strictly managed by staff to avoid mixing. Year 2 will also have access to the toilet in the cottage.
- Non-bubble staff can work across groups, and will follow our strict hygiene control measures when this is the case.

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. Please take note of your time interval as these have changed from the summer term!

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|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| • 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 more families dropping off and collecting it is of utmost importance 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, particularly now there are many more pupils attending. To support the increased numbers, we now allow parking on both Littleworth Road and Wooburn Common Road. This means people will arrive from 2 directions. Please ensure you are familiar with the drop-off and collection expectations and use the yellow lines on the picture when arriving at school and black lines on the picture when walking back to your car. (Please note: the actual lines on the pavement are all yellow. The black and red lines in the picture are for illustration only)



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

Please do not stop to talk to the 'Bubble 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, feeling safe and becoming familiar to their school with some new but 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 educating 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. Thankfully the Government has acknowledged that it will be difficult for children of this age to socially distance themselves but we must be vigilant in sharing these new social rules which may last most of this calendar year. Schools play an important role in the social and emotional development of children, which would be detrimental if social distancing were enforced. We will allow our children within a bubble to interact as they normally would and put other control measures in place, such as mixing only in small consistent groups and well-ventilated and thoroughly cleaned classrooms. Alongside this, as advised by the Government, we aim to be outside as much as possible for learning and team play.

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.
- Outdoor and PE resources will be cleaned between bubbles 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).
- Hall available for use by one bubble at a time, touchpoints cleaned in between use.
- Adventure playground available for use, touch points cleaned in between groups
- 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.

Breakfast and after school clubs

The government encourages schools to resume breakfast and after school clubs where possible, using small consistent groups. Following a thorough risk assessment, we are happy to offer the following clubs:

Breakfast club will run every morning (subject to demand) from Monday 7th September with a maximum of 10 children per session. The children must be dropped off at the 5-bar gate between 7:45-8:00am and will be taken to their classes at 9am..

After School Clubs will start the week commencing 14th September and run from 3:15pm - 4:15pm. The clubs will be outside or in well-ventilated rooms and the maximum number for each club is between 10 and 15. All club leaders will adhere to the school risk assessment and procedures and have provided the school with their own risk assessments. Subject to final confirmations, the following after school clubs will be offered:

- Monday - Messy Monkeys & Football
- Tuesday - French & Kickboxing
- Wednesday - Streetdance
- Thursday - Tennis, Yoga
- Friday - Kickboxing

A separate email will be sent tomorrow with enrolment information for each club.

Uniform

We will return to our usual uniform policy and expect children to come to school in full school uniform. There will be one change to this. Rather than bringing in their PE kit, the children will 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 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). Reception and Year 1 will be given their Dropmore water bottles on the first day. 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**

Lunch

All our children are eligible for free school meals under the Universal Free School Meals scheme. We will continue to provide this for the children of Dropmore Infant School. Each child will be provided with a sandwich (filled with a choice of cheese, ham or tuna), yoghurt, fruit and a small pack of biscuits or small cake. The children will be asked for their choice of filling every morning during registration.

The children will have lunch in their classrooms or outside, weather permitting. One class/ bubble each day will have lunch in the hall.

Attendance

School attendance will be **mandatory** from September 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. Schools must report these absences separately, so it is important that we are informed of these situations accurately and promptly.

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 office 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 14 days. Other household members of the bubble group do not need to self-isolate, unless the pupil/staff they live with subsequently develops symptoms.

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 14 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](#).

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 visit gov.uk/backtoschool for information and practical guidance to help you plan your child's safe return to school. I strongly encourage you to read this document!
- ⇒ Please talk to us about any questions or concerns you may have headteacher@dropmore.bucks.sch.uk 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 in their bubble at risk.

TRAVEL

If you have recently returned from a country that is **NOT** on the [exempt list](#), you must follow government guidelines and self-isolate for 14 days. **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 headteacher@dropmore.bucks.sch.uk or email or call the office.

The class teachers will be sending a letter later this week welcoming the children back to their new classroom. We are all looking forward to welcoming you back on Wednesday 2nd September.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Streete', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Streete
Headteacher