



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

*To strive for respect, enjoyment and excellence for all!*

10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was absolutely fantastic to welcome back our children and families this week, especially as we haven't seen some of our children for 29 weeks! I'd also like to welcome our new families who have arrived; we would like to welcome our new Nursery and Reception families along with our four new families who have joined us in other classes since Lockdown.

### Thank you and Sorry!

First of all, can I say a huge thank you and a sorry. Thank you for bearing with us as we get to grips with managing the Covid restrictions. Staff have worked hard to change the whole environment inside the school building, changing the way we organise classrooms, deliver lessons, run playtimes, lunchtimes, PE, etc. Some things we've got right, a couple of things we haven't and we had to make a small change when we were issued with new guidance. It is a challenging time for schools as we are issued with guidance very regularly from Salford Public Health, the Local Authority and the Government. I completely understand that it is frustrating when it feels like information is shared 'last minute'. However, your children have responded magnificently. It is lovely to hear the chatter, laughter and general lesson noise around the building once again. I've seen some very exciting activities and learning opportunities and lots of happy, smiling faces.

At time of writing, we haven't had any children or staff receive a positive Covid test result.

### How can you help us?

On the whole, drop off and pick ups have gone well. The children have followed the new routines and most children have arrived and been picked up at the new times. However, I have received a number of complaints regarding the behaviour of adults on the yard and on the narrow pavements outside school. Can I please ask that:

1. Families keep 2 metres apart on the streets outside school. It will help us if, once families have dropped children off on the yard with staff, that they leave the playground and the narrow pavements outside school. I understand that it is lovely to watch your children walk into the building in their lines or chat to other parents but this means that adults are blocking the pavements when other families are arriving.
2. Adults keep their distance from the doors when children leave the building. Some adults are bunching up close to staff and the exit doors which makes it very difficult for staff to see all of the parents and social distancing rules are being broken. Please can we ask that you stand back. Your children and our staff will see you. This may take a little longer than before so please be patient.
3. Families drop off and collect children at the new times. These are displayed on signs outside school, distributed on previous letters and are on the Covid page of our website. We are having a number of children dropped off and collected late. We have to keep to these rigid times using the designated entrances and exits as we cannot mix the classes/bubbles. When children arrive after their drop off time, it increases the risk of mixing bubbles as they enter through the main door. I understand that there are times when being late cannot be avoided but please help us to keep your children safe. Breakfast Club is available for £1 a day from 8am – no pre-booking necessary. Please use the service whenever you need to.
4. Parents do not send in cakes or sweets into school when their child has a birthday. We have to limit what comes into school as required by the Salford Public Health risk assessment.



5. To prevent the spread of Covid and children interacting with children from other bubbles and households, it is essential that just one parent or carer collects their children. Also, parents and carers should not be collecting children from other households. The only exception to this is if two households have formed a 'support' bubble.

What exactly is a support bubble?

Forming this support bubble means you effectively become one household – you can act as if you all lived together. This means you can do things such as go round to their house, stay the night and travel together in private vehicles. You don't need to socially distance from others in your support bubble. But once you've formed your support bubble, you can't change who's in it.

Who can I form a support bubble with?

For two households to form a support bubble, at least one of the households must be a single adult household – either an adult living alone or a single parent with children under 18 living with them – or be an adult who is shielding owing to a significant health condition. The other household can be any size.

We've had instances where one parent has asked to take a child from another bubble home as their parent is 'busy'. Please do not put our staff in a position where we have to refuse permission for other adults to take your children home. Older siblings aged 16 or over can collect their brothers and sisters and Year 6 children can walk home alone if we have written permission from a parent.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Attached to this letter is a leaflet about flu vaccinations. Children in Reception and upwards are eligible for the nasal vaccination to prevent the children becoming ill from flu. Please could these leaflets be returned by the 18<sup>th</sup> September. Schools only have enough copies for one per child.

Covid Tests

Like all other authorities throughout the country, families are struggling to get an appointment for a test. As a result, Public Health have changed the advice given to schools regarding testing. Schools will ask for children to get tested if they have the following:

- A new continuous cough
- A high temperature (fever)
- A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child does not have any of these symptoms but is still ill, we ask that children are kept off school until they have been symptom free for 48 hours.

I understand that there's been a lot of changes and a lot to take in over the last few weeks and months. I know our families well and I know that we will work together to ensure that we keep our school family safe whilst providing the best possible learning opportunities.

Esther 4:14

'... you have come in your position for such a time as this.'

God bless, stay safe and keep well.

Joanne Bladen-Kay  
Head Teacher

