

Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents,

Following the Prime Minister's announcement earlier this week, we are delighted to be able to announce the reopening of Tickford Park Primary School on Monday 8th March. We are very much looking forward to welcoming all pupils back into school on this date.

The purpose of this letter is to make you all aware of the arrangements that we will be putting in place to ensure that this reopening is as safe as we can make it and to minimise the risk of infection within the school community. Whilst many of our approaches will remain as they were in the autumn term, we are also introducing a few new precautions in recognition of recent high infection rates in the local area.

Drop-off and Collection Times

We have made some small alterations to the drop-off and collection times in order to minimise the number of parents on site at any one time. Our revised drop off and collection times are as follows:

| Year | Class | Drop-off time | Collection time |
|------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|
| R | Ruby | 8:45 | 3:05 |
| | Pearl | | |
| 1 | Amber | 8:45 | 3:10 |
| | Quartz | | |
| 2 | Malachite | 8:45 | 3:10 |
| | Diamond | | |
| 3 | Topaz | 8:40 | 3:15 |
| | Jet | | |
| 4 | Peridot | 8:30 | 3:05 |
| | Turquoise | | |
| 5 | Emerald | 8:40 | 3:15 |
| | Moonstone | | |
| 6 | Sapphire | 8:30 | 3:05 |
| | Amethyst | | |

Please ensure that you adhere to the allocated drop-off and collection times as these are designed to reduce risk at these particularly busy times of the school day.

Drop-off and Collection Locations

Drop-off and collection locations will remain as they were in December. For your convenience, these are listed in the table below.

| Year | Class | Entry/Exit Point |
|------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| R | Ruby | Classroom door |
| | Pearl | Classroom door |
| 1 | Amber | Classroom door |
| | Quartz | Classroom door |
| 2 | Malachite | Classroom door |
| | Diamond | Aston Hall door |
| 3 | Topaz | Classroom door |
| | Jet | Double doors in Year 3 courtyard |
| 4 | Peridot | Double doors in Year 4 courtyard |
| | Turquoise | Classroom door |
| 5 | Emerald | Door in corner of canopied courtyard |
| | Moonstone | Classroom door |
| 6 | Sapphire | Classroom door |
| | Amethyst | Classroom door |

These doors will be signed up with the name of the class. Senior leaders will be available in the morning and at the end of the school day to direct you to the correct location, if required.

Siblings

If you have children with multiple start times, please bring them to school at the earliest time. Once you have dropped off the child with an earlier start, their sibling(s) will be able to go straight into their classroom, using the access point indicated above.

The same principle will apply at the end of the school day. If you have children with different collection times, please come at the later time. The child with an earlier collection time will remain in their classroom until this point.

Please only drop-off your children early if their siblings have an earlier start time.

Safety onsite

The drop-off and collection times are potentially the most vulnerable times of the school day, due to the high number of people on site. As such, we request that parents adhere to the following guidelines:

- Please wear a face mask when onsite.
- Only one adult to collect wherever possible.
- Please don't stay on site to socialise with other parents.
- If your child's start time is, for example, 8:40, please try not to arrive on site prior to this time. The same principle applies to collection times.
- Wherever possible, please observe social distancing when in the school grounds.
- We ask that children do not remain behind to play on the school grounds or equipment after they have been dismissed.
- Wherever possible, please do not come into the school without first making an appointment.

Bubbles

Our children will continue to attend school in year group bubbles consisting of two parallel classes. Children will remain within these bubbles throughout the day and contact between bubbles will be avoided.

Breaktimes and lunchtimes will be scheduled to retain the integrity of bubbles. This may mean that children are eating or playing at a slightly different time to the usual school day, although any such deviations will be minor.

The majority of staff will be allocated to just one bubble; however, in some cases this will not be possible. Staff working with multiple bubbles – for example, senior leaders and some support staff – will avoid working in close contact with pupils wherever possible.

Staff are also requested to wear face masks in situations where they are meeting with colleagues from other bubbles and it is not possible to keep a social distance.

Children in year two who have been in two separate keyworker groups will return to their own classes on Monday 8th March.

Confirmed Cases

In the event of a confirmed case within school, we will work closely with Public Health MK and MK Council to determine the actions that need to be taken. This may include the closure of a class or a year group, depending on the close contact that the confirmed case has had. We will always endeavour to communicate this information to you as promptly as we are able.

In circumstances where a group of pupils are required to self-isolate, we will revert to the existing model for remote learning.

Head teacher: Mr Daniel J. Smith

Tel: 01908 610431

Fax: 01908 617094

Email: office@tickfordpark.milton-keynes.sch.uk

www.tickfordpark.org.uk

Hygiene and Cleaning

We will continue to implement an enhanced cleaning regime across the school which will be monitored regularly. In addition to standard cleaning practices, work spaces used by pupils will be wiped down with anti-bacterial spray at lunchtime and the end of the school day. Additional cleaning of toilet facilities will also take place.

Teaching staff will ensure that children are taught the importance of regular and thorough hand-washing and will facilitate opportunities for children to do this throughout the school day. Good hygiene practices and Covid-safe behaviour will form an important part of the curriculum as children return to school.

Equipment

Wherever possible, we will minimise the sharing of equipment between children, and especially between bubbles. Equipment that does need to be shared, for example, the computers in our IT Suite, will be cleaned between uses.

Self-isolation

In accordance with Government guidance, pupils must not attend school if:

- They develop symptoms of Covid-19
- They have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19
- Anyone in their household or support or childcare bubble develops symptoms of Covid-19
- They are required to do so having recently travelled from certain other countries
- They have been advised to isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the PHE local health protection team.

Pupils required to self-isolate will be provided with remote learning for the duration of their isolation.

Asymptomatic Testing

School staff will continue to take Lateral Flow Tests twice a week as an additional precaution. Any staff testing positive through this process will not be permitted to attend school but will instead be asked to book a PCR test at a testing centre.

Please note that there will be no testing for pupils. This process is only for secondary-aged pupils.

Curriculum

Pupils will, in general, continue to receive the broad and balanced curriculum planned for this term. This should build on work set remotely during the lockdown.

In some cases, such as practical lessons including P.E. and Music, curriculum content will be subject to additional risk assessment and adaptations may be needed.

Over the first three weeks of our reopening, teaching staff will work closely with children to identify any gaps that have emerged throughout the school closure – either in groups of children or individuals – and plan provision to address these.

We are very aware that this lockdown period may have impacted on pupils' mental health and over the next few weeks, we will be prioritising activities to support pupils' wellbeing. We will support the children in settling back into school, help them to build positive relationships with their teachers and classmates and revisit the routines required for a successful classroom ethos.

Where we identify specific emotional needs, we will work closely with parents to support these pupils with their reintegration to onsite education.

Wrap-around Care

In line with Government guidance, our after-school provision will also be reopening on Monday 8th March for parents who require this service. If you would like to book a place in this provision for your child, you can do so through School Gateway.

River Meadow Pre-School will also be recommencing their Breakfast Club provision. You can book a place for your child in this provision by e-mail (rivermeadowpreschool@btconnect.com) or phone (01908615200). These children will be brought to school by Breakfast Club staff at the start of the school day.

School Meals

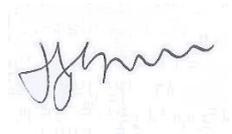
School meals will continue to be served by Chartwells. These should now be booked once again through Chartwells' Parent Pay facility. Please note that the deadline for ordering is midnight on the Thursday prior to the week for which you are booking. A menu will be published on Class Dojo.

Bus Services

For children who travel to school on a school bus, these services will resume on Monday 8th March. Please note that these pupils will now be picked up at 8:20am.

We will be reviewing these arrangements at the end of this term and will communicate with you any adjustments that need to be made. We thank you for your support throughout this lockdown period and in advance, for your cooperation in ensuring that our reopening runs as smoothly and as safely as can be.

Best wishes,



Daniel Smith
Headteacher

Head teacher: Mr Daniel J. Smith

Email: office@tickfordpark.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Tel: 01908 610431

Fax: 01908 617094

www.tickfordpark.org.uk