



Ash Grove Primary Academy

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14th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are staying safe and well. We are coming to the end of what has been a very unusual year. Before the Summer Term ends, I would like to update you on how we intend to manage the full return of all children in September.

Below are our initial plans for how things will operate in September using the most recent guidance issued by the DfE. As a Trust, Inspire have decided to go further than the DfE guidance requires in order to ensure that we are protecting our children, families and staff. Towards the end of the summer holiday we will issue our updated risk assessment for all parents and carers to see. This will be on our website and will be kept updated as the Autumn Term progresses.

There are lots of aspects we needed to plan for and no doubt, as we start to implement this way of working, we may come across things that will need to be amended and improved further. As such we must keep talking to all of you about this, so that we can offer the safest provision possible for your children.

The list below is being shared with you now so that you are aware of what is coming, and you can ask any questions that you may have. I am afraid the list is very long!

- Children will continue to be grouped in bubbles to minimise contact with others. Bubbles will operate in phases. So, for example Y3 and Y4 will be a bubble. Classes within a bubble will operate separately at almost all times, but the staffing in a bubble may move between those classes to support curriculum delivery.
- The start and end of the school day will continue to be staggered for each bubble. Break times and lunchtimes will also be staggered. You will receive a form that tells you what start and finish time applies for your child. It is important that you adhere to the times you are given to avoid crossing into another bubble.
- Families will continue to have designated entry gates and doors into and out of the site. Specific entry and exit points for each class from the bubble will be advertised and well-spaced, to avoid congestion. Parents need to continue to operate an immediate drop off and leave protocol with **only one parent** present per family. Those families with siblings should drop off and collect at the earliest time given to their family so that only one trip is needed. Unfortunately, parents will still **not be** permitted on site other than to drop off and collect pupils. If you need to talk with a member of staff, this will be by telephone/email. Entry and exit points and drop off doors will be communicated to individual parents before the start of term.



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- All classes will have desks in rows facing the front. All classes will have a ‘teacher zone’ where staff can socially distance from pupils. All pupils will have a wallet with their own equipment for daily use, as is the case now. All doors and windows will be open.
- Hand hygiene and using tissues to catch it, bin it, kill it will continue.
- For the first half term, lunches will continue to be in classrooms with an outdoor play afterwards. Grab bags will continue for pupils requiring a school lunch until half term, and then be reviewed as hopefully restrictions ease and we can reintroduce the use of the dinner hall.
- Unfortunately, we will not be running breakfast club or after school club in the first half term to reduce the contamination and mixing of groups. If virus levels continue to decline, the school will survey parental needs during September and explore setting up provision that is bubble specific, if possible, as quickly as possible as we know this will support many families.
- The normal curriculum will be taught with some exceptions. PE will only be taught outside in the first instance. Each bubble will have an allocated afternoon for PE and have PE sessions at the same time in their allocated section of the playground. Equipment will be used but will not be shared between classes. Pupils must **wear their PE kit and suitable trainers to school** on their allocated PE day to avoid the need to change.
- We ask that pupils **do not** bring anything into school other than a coat, that can be kept on the back of their chair. If they are not having a school lunch, lunches should be in a disposable bag or wipeable small packed lunch bag. Pupils may bring in a school water bottle. If your child needs a replacement school water bottle, this can be ordered from the school office and paid for through ‘parent pay’. The bottle will be ready for your child to collect when they arrive at school.
- Children will bring home a reading book each week. It is really important that they read at home with an adult each day in addition to their in-school reading to support them to catch up where needed and make progress. Each read should be recorded in their reading record. This will be checked each week by the teacher. Children will be able to bring in a **school book bag** with **only** their book and reading record in it. If you require a replacement book bag this can be ordered from the school office and paid for through ‘parent pay’. The school book bag will be ready for your child to collect when they arrive at school.



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- You will be sent a form for your children that details the individual information for each child in your family. Along with this will be a copy of the home school agreement that must be acknowledged before your child can return to school. All pupils and families are expected, by the government, to use the Test, Track and Trace facility. No pupil with symptoms related to coronavirus should attend school. If a person in the household has symptoms, pupils should be kept at home to self-isolate for 14 days. If your child becomes ill at school, staff will contact you immediately to collect them. They will be kept isolated from others until they are collected.

Closer to the children's return date in September we will send out more specific guidance and information as well as the risk assessment. We are all very much looking forward to all of the children returning to school in September. The first day of school for children is Tuesday September 8th when staff will be ready to welcome you and show the children their new classrooms and routines.

If you have any questions regarding any of this information, please do contact the school office who will be able to help you. We all want to do as much as possible to make the return to school as successful as we can.

We hope you all have a lovely summer and return safe in September.

Yours sincerely,

L Charlesworth
National Leader of Education
Deputy CEO IPMAT



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