

Crowmoor Primary School & Nursery
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17th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

After 34 years in teaching this has been the hardest and most distressing year I have experienced. All schools are built to be full of children, to help and support them to achieve, but most importantly to keep them safe.

At Crowmoor the safety of our pupils is central to all that we do and that is why we are Shropshire's only gold UNICEF Right's Respecting school. Without pupils a school is a soulless place.

We are so pleased that we can welcome all of our pupils and staff back to their school after the Summer. It has been our privilege to assist the Key Worker Parents by looking after their children since lock-down started and we are so proud of how hard these children have worked and how well they have behaved. Having most of the Year 6 children and some of the Year 1 pupils back also made the school a happier and more normal place.

I must pay tribute to my staff, who have volunteered and given up their holidays to keep the School running to support other Key Workers in doing their jobs, who have provided work to all the pupils and support to children and parents, keeping in contact with families over the lock-down.

I must thank you for ensuring that the work that the Teachers provided has been completed by your children so that they haven't fallen too far behind. We must request that over the Summer you maintain them reading daily and learning their spellings and tables/number bonds so that they come back in September fully equipped to learn.

We are delighted that we can now look forward to seeing all our children back in September. We have been very busy in the last couple of weeks planning, completing revised and detailed risk assessments, and working out exactly what School will look like and feel like when your child returns. Photographs of how the classes now look are on the website. The detailed plan for return which we ask you to read in detail is on the website. The Revised Risk Assessment will be put on next week. I have summarised the main points below and please ask that you read all of the information. I don't apologise for the length of the summary as it is about keeping everybody at home and school as safe as possible.

For September your children will be moving up to their next year group and class. The Teachers and TAs for each class are as follows:

Reception: Miss Jones, Mrs Millichamp and a Modern Apprentice

Chestnut, Year1: Mrs Richards, Mrs Kearney and Miss Harrison

Elm, Year 2: Mrs Dowell and Mrs Armstrong



Hazel, Year 3: Miss Bliss, Mrs Davies, Mrs Evason

Sycamore, Year 4: Mrs Brunyard and Mrs Martin

Oak, Year 5: Mrs Parkhurst, Mrs Smith, Mrs Fairclough and Miss Nicholas

Willow, Year 6: Mr Wilmot, Mrs Lewis, Miss Harris

We cannot guarantee your child's safety 100% in September. However, we could not do that prior to COVID! but the government advice says nothing is risk free. We as always will do everything to keep your children safe, happy and learning successfully. We have increased the number of CCTV cameras around School, to ensure that we can keep parents and children as safe as possible. I promise that we will be honest in telling you if we have concerns and the risks are increasing. The Government has stated: 'Given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19)'. The risk to adults in school and at home is unfortunately not as low.

We can only keep all children as safe as possible with the co-operation and support of ALL Parents/Carers. Appropriate social distancing, two metres wherever possible is one of the best control measures. The maintenance of distancing is crucial with the drop off and collection of pupils. If parents do not comply or respect distancing of two metres the school reserves the right to close access to the whole site in order to protect other parents and the pupils.

In preparation for **Wednesday 2nd September**, there are some key points that you need to be aware of to ensure that your child is as safe as possible. Please be aware some details may change; we will keep you updated via the school website.

There will be NO staggered starts to try and make it as easy as possible for those families with more than one child at school. The end of the school day has slight differences. The playground gates will open at 8.40am. Please use the playground to help maintain social distancing.

Arrival

Everyone is to enter school via the one-way system (Entry Main gate, Exit across the playground to the Side gate) and in the first week line up with their classes at 8:40am.

Gates to open at 08:40am. Please do not arrive earlier or congregate or mix with other Parents prior to this. Parents to drop children off in their respective class lines then to immediately leave the site by the one-way system. One parent per child only please. **Reception** will come into school at **9am** and have been supplied with different times for attendance, they will line up on the playground.

- Teachers will be by their Class Label at 08:40am and then escort the children, who **MUST** be there by 8:50am at the latest into class. (Late children not in by 8.50 may be marked as absent and the Education Welfare Officer involved). If you are late you will need to ring the Office to arrange how your child can come into school safely.
- When children enter the classroom they must sit down, put coats on the back of their chair, children to place lunches under their table and TA to circulate around class administering hand sanitiser
- No pencil cases, bags or lunch boxes (all lunches to be brought in bags that can be disposed of after use)
- Personal water bottles **required** as no access to drinking water in class or cloakrooms.

We strongly recommend that children in Y4, 5 and 6 walk into school on their own and parents do not enter the school site to reduce congestion and help us to maintain social distancing. To assist free movement and to facilitate compliance with distancing during entry and exit to and from school, senior staff will be on duty each day.



- Hazles' Nursery staff (external supplier) to use their own entrances and not to use the school corridors or lunch room. Parents with children at Hazles must not contact the school or attempt to gain entry via the main entrance.
- Plastic book bags will be supplied by the school and the children will be allowed to bring them in from home
- If the children have PE they must come to school and remain in PE kit (PE kit being black or blue joggers, white t-shirt, school jumper and trainers)
- After school clubs will start during the second week of term. Specific year groups each night to avoid potential cross contamination of bubbles and to help children catch up. A separate letter will be sent in the new term.

Communication

Parents must relay any messages to the class teachers via indirect contact with the Office through an email or telephone call.

Staff cannot engage in conversations to avoid too much direct contact with people. They will be wearing masks when collecting or handing over pupils.

Collection/Leaving Procedures

Parents will be allowed access to the playground from 3.00pm. Staff will feed pupils out to parents at the end of the day from behind the green fences in the quadrangles. Parents will need to remain on the playground side of the one-way cones, staff will send children to them

- Y5 and Y6 children exit the building by their external class doors (3:15pm) parents can if necessary in rare circumstances wait and socially distance by the Assault Course equipment. Y4 children to leave through the Boys' Corridor (3:15pm), Y2 (3:10pm) and Y3 (3:15pm) children to leave by the Girls' Corridor.
- Reception pupils (3pm) after the first week, after lunch prior to that and Y1 (3:10pm) will leave through the EYFS entrance
- Parents to remain behind the coned line; allowing space for the children to see their parent and staff to remain behind the fence to excuse their classes
- Once parents receive their children they are expected to leave the school site promptly
- Parents must pick their children up on time; as there will be no provision to look after your child and no staff will be available after the advertised closing times

External Visitors

- Parents and non-essential visitors not allowed in the building to maintain social distancing and to reduce risk of infection. No non-staff member can go past the green line and sign on the entrance ramp without first telephoning the school.

Other Issues

1. You must ensure that if anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, your child does NOT attend school. Any child or staff member who develops symptoms in the school day will be sent home immediately. If anyone in your household, or your child, tests positive for COVID-19 you MUST inform your school. (please read Appendix 1 for detailed advice).
2. The Government has advised walking or cycling to school wherever possible to reduce the use of public transport.
3. Attendance at school will be compulsory for the vast majority of children. The Government has relaxed the rules on attendance during lockdown. However, this will change in September. The Government guidance says: 'Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance



will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term.” This means fines and even Court action are a possibility for persistently late or absent pupils.

4. Pupils will not be wearing face coverings in school. The Government advice is quite clear that this is not necessary. If face coverings are used before children get to school, they must be removed and safely disposed of or stored before entry to the building.

5. Your child will be expected to follow strict behaviour rules relating to physical contact with other pupils, they will be expected to keep 2metres distance whilst on the playground or in the corridors, if not possible 1m+.

This also applies to all adults entering the school site and all people coming onto the school site must keep their hands clean. Pupils will be expected to wash their hands regularly, and/or use hand sanitiser.

6. If your child has Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) and an EHCP Mrs Parkhurst will contact you to explain what provision will look like from September.

7. Our school kitchen will reopen in September, and hot lunches will be available again. Pupils eligible for free school meals will return to having their lunch at school, and will no longer receive lunch vouchers. Free School Meal vouchers have now been ordered for the Summer holidays.

8. It will be more important than ever that your child has their own equipment in school to ensure that this does not need to be shared. Each child will be provided with a set of equipment; please do not send pencil cases into school or large bags, a plastic book bag will be provided by the school. Pupils will not be using the cloakrooms; all coats will be placed on their chairs and there will be no space in the rows for bags.

9. Pupils will be expected to wear school uniform. No coloured trainers, with any markings allowed, just pure black shoes. Please ensure that there is no coloured dyed hair or shaved hair-cuts on return in September. Remember only one round plain metal stud in the ear is allowed and if the child cannot remove it themselves it cannot be worn, as jewellery is not allowed for PE. All pupils need to have joggers and a sweat-shirt and on PE days come to school wearing their PE kit. The days will be allocated the first week back.

Anxieties

We understand that some of you and your children will be anxious about returning in September, after some months out of school. Please be reassured that we are taking exceptional measures to make our schools as safe as it can be, both emotionally and physically. We are part of a new trail-blazer mental health project for pupils in Shropshire. We will be providing additional emotional and wellbeing support for all pupils, and will also be providing additional opportunities to support learning where this is required. Although very many of our pupils have worked hard using our remote learning resources provided by our dedicated teachers, we are fully aware that learning has been lost. We are all determined that your sons and daughters will absolutely not be ‘a lost generation’ and we’re adapting our curriculum to make sure that they get the learning and knowledge that they need to achieve success in the future.

Your children deserve a great, enjoyable and safe education – we will not let you or them down.

A massive thanks to Parents/Carers for their kind words, their thanks and their thoughts over this difficult time they all gave us a big boost and the cakes and chocolates were also most welcome.

I hope that you have a restful Summer. See you all in September!

Alan Parkhurst
Head teacher

Appendix 1

Symptoms of COVID-19

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)



- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- if your child or any family member has any of the above you need to be tested and should not come to school.

Self-isolate for at least 7 days

You must self-isolate for at least 7 days if:

- you have symptoms of coronavirus and tested positive, had an unclear result or did not have a test
- you tested positive but have not had symptoms

The 7 days starts from when your symptoms started. If you have not had symptoms, the 7 days starts from when you had the test.

Stop self-isolating after 7 days if you feel OK

You can stop self-isolating after 7 days if either:

- you do not have any symptoms
- you just have a cough or changes to your sense of smell or taste – these can last for weeks after the infection has gone

Keep self-isolating if you feel unwell

Keep self-isolating if you have any of these symptoms after 7 days:

- a high temperature or feeling hot and shivery
- a runny nose or sneezing
- feeling or being sick
- diarrhoea
- loss of appetite

Only stop self-isolating when these symptoms have gone.

If you have diarrhoea or you're being sick, stay at home until 48 hours after they've stopped.

Self-isolate for 14 days

You must self-isolate for 14 days if you live with (or are in a support bubble with) someone who:

- has symptoms of coronavirus and tested positive, had an unclear result or did not have a test
- tested positive but has not had symptoms

The 14 days starts from:

- when the first person in your home or support bubble started having symptoms
- the day they were tested, if they have not had symptoms

This is because it can take 14 days for symptoms to appear.



Negative test result

A negative result means the test did not find coronavirus.

You do not need to self-isolate if your test is negative, as long as:

- everyone you live with who has symptoms tests negative
- everyone in your support bubble who has symptoms tests negative
- you were not told to self-isolate for 14 days by NHS Test and Trace – if you were, see [what to do if you've been told you've been in contact with someone who has coronavirus](#)
- you feel well – if you feel unwell, stay at home until you're feeling better

If you have diarrhoea or you're being sick, stay at home until 48 hours after they've stopped.



