

27th August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you have all had a relaxing, fun summer break and are looking forward to school starting again next week. The school is looking sparkly after a deep clean, classrooms are set up ready for exciting learning and our new school catering team have practised making pizzas! William Morris is ready for the children's return – on 3rd Sept for Year 1 and 2, 7th Sept for nursery and 8th Sept for Reception.

Please read updates below confirming Covid procedures and reminders about the start of term.

Covid 19

Many of the changes we made to our school systems due to COVID have been a success and have contributed to keeping our school open. For this reason, we will keep certain changes in place and are taking a cautious approach for Term 1. With this in mind, and since we will no longer need to send home whole year groups of children to isolate, we will widen our mixing to year groups for internal organisation. This offers more freedom and greater interactions between pupils. Year group mixing will however, reduce the number of children from which your child may contract the virus.

Covid cases have risen in the SN25 area and in the South West over the past few weeks. Whilst parents have a choice whether to visit a shop, there is not a choice about coming to school. Therefore, we politely request that you continue to social distance and wear masks if inside school or in crowded areas. Where possible only one adult should be dropping off and picking up your child.

The following measures will continue to be in place:

- Staggered start and end of the day, with different gate entrances and exits for each year group
- Parents will continue to drop-off and collect their child from a designated outside area
- Parents will only be on-site by prior arrangement for specific meetings
- Handwashing regularly as part of the class timetable
- Ventilation throughout the day
- Hygiene station in each classroom – with tissues, hand gel and bins
- Teaching children about germs and the importance of hand washing, coughing/sneezing into their arm
- Taking temperatures of children who look flushed
- Staff wearing PPE when dealing with any intimate care
- Staff wearing masks inside school
- Staff testing twice weekly
- Increased cleaning

We will be dealing with seasonal illnesses, colds and coughs, as well as Covid 19 this term. We would appreciate parents arranging a quick collection plan, incase we need to ask you to collect your child.

Symptoms - it is essential that if your child, or anyone in your household, is unwell and presenting with any symptoms that they stay at home. **Please inform us if this is the case.**

Lateral flow testing is encouraged for the adult population. Please remember that LFD testing is for asymptomatic cases only. Anyone with symptoms, however mild, must self isolate and seek a PCR test asap, and members of the household are also encouraged to take a PCR test.

We hope that you can understand and appreciate the decisions we have made. We want to do everything we reasonably can to protect the education of our children and the health and wellbeing of all members of our school community.

Drop off and Pick up

Nursery - Drop off & Pick up at Sunflower Reception gate and black gate and into nursery outside area

Reception - Drop off through Sunflower gate into their classroom/cloakroom, Pick up from classroom door

Year 1 - Drop off through Y1 outside area and into their classrooms, Pick up from classroom door

Year 2 - Drop off through Y1 outside area and into their cloakroom, Pick up from Studio door, left of front entrance

Pick up 3pm – if a different adult is collecting your child, please let us know by lunchtime so messages can be passed on.

Kiss and Drop between 8:40am and 8:50am

Parents drive into the car park, into the drop off zone. A member of staff will open the car door and help the child out. Parents drive away carefully. Children are accompanied into school.

Please bear with us as we get this started from Monday 6th September.

Soft Start

Children are welcome to arrive from 8:40am and put their coats, bags and water bottles away and come into class to begin an 'early bird' activity, such as colouring, sharing a game or answering a question with friends. All children should be at school, ready to start learning at 8:55am when the register is taken. Children who arrive after this will be marked late.

Our gates will open at 8:40am and close at 8:55am.

Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Sunrise Breakfast Club & Sunset After School Clubs will start from 7:30am 3rd Sept for Year 1 and 2 children and from 8th September for Reception children.

As we now have more children in school, children must be booked in advance and paid for in advance, using Parentpay.

Due to numbers of children & staffing in Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs, we will need to mix year groups.

Equipment

Please remember to bring in a full water bottle and book bag each day.

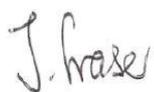
Any medication eg inhalers should be brought to the main school office at the beginning of term. At the start of term, children should bring in wellies (YR) and PE kits for all children.

Communication

For term 1 we will continue having less people into the school building. But we do hope to be able to see parents more face to face, have meetings on zoom, in the outdoors or in large, ventilated spaces. If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please email/call the school office and the teacher can call you or meet you at the end of the school day.

Our focus when we return will be on supporting the children as they settle back into school and getting to know our new classes. We look forward to a great academic year at William Morris!

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Fraser