



Tudor Grange Primary Academy, St James

24th February 2021

Dear Parents

I am sure you are aware of the Prime Minister's announcements on Monday. We know that this will have been welcome news to many of you and we are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school. This letter updates you on what we now need to do to plan for this return.

The main operational guidance that we are currently reviewing is here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/963541/Schools_coronavirus_operational_guidance.pdf

and the main media release responding to frequently asked questions is here:

<https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/22/all-students-to-return-to-school-and-college-from-8-march-and-what-you-need-to-know/>

Many of our plans will be familiar to you from your experience in school during last autumn term but it is important that you read this letter carefully.

Children will enjoy a full curriculum when they return to school. This objective is framed within the context of maintaining stringent controls to promote health and safety and minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19 as much as we are able to do so.

The government, supported by Public Health England, has highlighted the importance of the following controls which must always be in place to minimise transmission:

- Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual.
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard approved products.





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Wall mounted hand sanitation units are throughout the school site to enhance our hygiene practices and to minimise transmission.

Children will remain in their class cohort and will be taught in their year group designated classrooms. Furniture in classrooms remains front facing. Playtimes and lunchtimes will continue to be staggered with children given separate areas and timings so that mixing is minimised.

Children will continue to limit the amount of equipment they bring to school.

Arrival and collection times will continue to be staggered – **please note there will be a slight change to this and this is detailed on the FAQs which will we aim to issue later this week.**

Once again we request that all adults collecting and delivering pupils wear a face covering (unless they are exempt) to reduce the risk of transmission within the community.

You will be able to access full wrap around care from March 8th. In response to ongoing issues with our existing booking systems we are changing the way that bookings can be made to try and make everyone's life a little easier. By Friday 26th February you will receive the details for the new booking system through which bookings after Friday 5th March must be made. In order to access the booking system you must have activated your My Child at School account (MCAS). If you have not yet done so, please contact Mrs Sutton via the school office who will be able to support you with this. Bookings for wraparound services from Monday 8th March must be made through the new booking system, and any pupils not booked in will not be able to access the service.

We will look at the guidance very carefully over the next few days and leaders from across the Trust will meet to discuss and share their planning. We will plan to issue our rearrangements for full re-opening by the end of this week.

We are doing everything we can to ensure a positive and happy start to the return to school for our children and I assure you that we will proceed with great care and caution over the coming weeks. We will update you and provide as much clarity as we can to support this aim.





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Our children and many of you have found the last two months extremely difficult and returning to some sort of normality is becoming more essential as each day passes. We have valued all your support over the last twelve months as we have navigated our way through the difficulties posed by the virus. All that we can ask is that you are as thoughtful and communicative as you have always been, so that we can continue to support you and your child as we all return to something closer to 'normal'.

As we continue to move forward together as one community, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support which is appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Deakin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Miss S Deakin
Executive Principal for Primary

