

Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Dear parents/carers,

**Returning to school on Monday 8th March.**

We are really excited to welcome all of the children back. The school hasn't been the same without them and I know many have missed coming. I would like to thank you again for your support.

**Attendance from 8th March 2021 is compulsory for all children.**

Following government guidelines, attendance is mandatory for all pupils at Rivers from 8th March. We recognise that some of you may be concerned about your child returning to school and the measures we have in place are designed to protect all members of our school community and are based on national and local government advice and our own risk assessments.

**Uniform and PE kit**

Children will be expected to wear school uniform every day except the day/s that they have PE. On these day/s children will come into school in their PE kit. New PE shirts will be given out early next week. Children will be expected to wear this for PE. Year group newsletters will inform you of the day your child has PE as this may have changed for some children.

**What your child can bring to school**

Children still need to limit what they need to bring into school to essential items only. Coats, planners, home reading books and lunch items are the only items required. Unfortunately, we still cannot share sweets or cakes if it is a child's birthday.

*'We Inspire to Aspire'*

## **Handwashing and use of hand sanitiser**

Children are not allowed to bring in their own hand sanitiser, we have plenty in school which will be used under adult supervision. Children will wash/sanitise their hands throughout the day and at key times.

## **After school clubs**

After school clubs will start week beginning 15th March and more information about which clubs are available will come out shortly.

## **Arriving at school**

There are now 2 entrances to Rivers. The entrance on Green Rock Lane (through the playground as before) and the new entrance on Mersey Road. The gates will be open from 8.30 am to 9.00 am. The extended morning drop off period is to allow for social distancing. Please limit to one person per household coming onto the school site. The children will continue to go straight to their classrooms and staff will be there to support them. If using Green Rock Lane entrance to drop your child off at school, you can either drop them at the entrance to the playground, or use the one way system to cross the playground and drop them at the top of the slope to the building (as before) again exiting at Green Rock Lane. If you are using Mersey Road entrance, then you will need to leave your child at the gate and not enter the school site. Please wear a face covering when you enter the school site.

## **Lunchtime**

The canteen will continue to cook hot food and lunch will be available to buy. Children entitled to free school meals and universal free school meals (all children in Reception, Y1 and Y2) will be provided with lunch.

## **End of the day**

We are also staggering our end of school time. The gate will be open from 3.10 pm to 3.30 pm. The extended drop off period is to allow for social distancing and please limit to one person per household. You will enter the site by Green Rock Lane and exit through our Mersey Road exit. We will continue with the one way system around the outside of the building following a clockwise direction, please adhere to this at all times. Children will be collected from the same place as autumn term. We strongly advise you to wear a face covering when entering the school site.

### **Speaking to members of staff**

Please can we ask that if you would like to speak to a member of staff, that you continue with class dojo or email/phone for any other queries. Members of the senior leadership and pastoral team will be around the entrances/exits to assist you.

### **If a child is unwell**

We will continue to follow the most up to date guidance from Public Health England and act accordingly. If a child does become unwell in school with a new continuous cough, a high temperature or loss or change to sense of smell or taste, we will move the child to a designated room, where they will remain until collected. They will then book a PCR test.

### **Our expectations of you**

We ask that you adhere to the latest government directives with regards to safety measures (social distancing, not mixing households etc). Please refer to <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> for the latest advice. If your child is unwell with coronavirus symptoms, please do not send them into school. Please ensure that your child washes their hands thoroughly before coming to school and when they get home from school every day.

Thank you for your continued support, we really look forward to seeing you and your child(ren) on **Monday 8th March**.

Mrs L Wright

Head teacher