

25 February 2021

## **School re-opening March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers

We are delighted to be able to welcome all children back to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

I am sure that this news will offer a sense of relief for most families but I am also very mindful of a mixture of feelings felt by parents and children as the school gates are open again. It is very important to us that we are able to offer the right transition back to school and as such request that you spend a few minutes completing the attached questionnaire and returning it to [enquiries@deanery.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@deanery.bham.sch.uk) so that we can support children as a whole but also on a personal level if needs be. Please put your child/children's name in the email heading when returning your completed questionnaire.

Thank you to all staff, parents and children for engaging so well with school during this challenging year. We can return in the knowledge that although we have all had to made sacrifices, we have done our very best for our children.

### **System of controls**

All schools must comply with health and safety law, which requires them to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. These measures will be detailed in our health and safety risk assessment updated for the March return and available on the website.

In order to keep everyone as safe as possible, the overarching principle is to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff. We will therefore continue to operate the control systems implemented for the September 2020 return.

### ***One-way systems.***

Entrance to the main school playground via the gates by Foxes building and exit school grounds along the emergency vehicle exit. Continue to exit along the footpath behind the site manager's property.

Enter school grounds via the field gate and complete an anti-clockwise walk around the perimeter of the field.

Nursery children access via the path by the entrance of the Foxes building and continue along the path to exit by the main school building.

**Please adhere to these measures; even though they might add a couple of minutes to your routine, all measures are in place to keep our whole school community as safe as possible.**

### ***Staggered drop off and collection will continue as established in September.***

School will be open for all year groups from 8:45am until 9am for a staggered entry.

In order to minimise the amount of families and children entering school at any one time, the school community has been separated into 3 groups for morning drop off. Children at the beginning of the register, can be dropped off at the beginning of the allocated time at around 8:45am, those in the middle of the register can be dropped off in the middle of the time and children at the end of the register can be dropped off towards the end of the allocated time. Upon arrival, class doors will be open for staff to receive children without waiting. Children will enter school through their year group doors. We request that that only 1 parent accompanies a child and parents exit the school site without delay.

Collection at the end of the school day is separated into classes and times for collection are detailed below.

<b>Drop off time</b>	<b>Collection time</b>	
Alphabetical drop off (beginning of register earliest drop off time etc)	3:25pm	3:35pm
8:45am – 9:00am	6B, 5AP, 4P, 3R, 2W, 1SB, RW	6W, 5SP, 4G, 3C, 2R, 1S, RP

Nursery parents drop off between 9-9:15am and collection between 12-12:15pm using the established one-way system.

### **Prevention**

First and foremost, if someone displays symptoms of coronavirus they should stay at home and follow Government guidance.

Hand washing will continue to be encouraged as an integral part of hygiene routines throughout the day, on arrival to school, before and after break times and lunchtimes and as part of good respiratory hygiene. In addition, enhanced cleaning will be undertaken. These routines will continue to be part of school culture.

There will be increased ventilation in the classrooms. Please ensure your child has a jumper as classrooms can become chilly on colder days.

One of the main protective measures to minimise the risk of coronavirus transmission in schools is to **limit the number of contacts that a child has during the school day**. We will therefore be grouping children together, in classes and year groups and avoiding contact between year groups. Timetables will be carefully

managed to safely utilise shared classrooms, halls and outside spaces. Lunchtimes will also be staggered, with year groups eating together.

Social distancing will be encouraged for all children in an age appropriate way. In years 2-6 classrooms will be arranged with rows of desks, facing forwards. Younger children may not be able to distance within their group but all shared equipment will be cleaned regularly.

All staff will continue to undertake twice-weekly lateral flow tests.

Face masks – to be worn whilst on school grounds.

Access to school office, by appointment only.

Communication with class teachers to be via email at [enquiry@deanery.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@deanery.bham.sch.uk) and not through face-to-face contact at drop off and collection.

## **Foxes**

We are pleased to announce that Foxes Club will re-open on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and will operate from the Foxes Club building.

The Foxes Club online booking facility is now open for you to make your bookings from 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021.

All of the Foxes Club sessions can be booked online via Scopay from Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 and will be available to book until the closing date of Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021.

If you have already booked sessions for the Spring Term up to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 we have cancelled the sessions up to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March and we are giving you the opportunity to check what you have booked up to 1<sup>st</sup> April and make changes to these sessions as necessary via the Scopay online booking system.

We are also asking that you make your bookings for the summer term so that we can make the necessary staffing arrangements. We appreciate that you may not know your working patterns yet however we ask that you book your minimum requirements where possible so that we can arrange staffing and make plans. We will then do our best to accept additional bookings after the closing date.

As per the terms of the registration form and contract that you signed up to in September, any Foxes Club sessions booked cannot be cancelled or amended once the closing date has passed.

Please contact the school office via email at [enquiry@deanery.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@deanery.bham.sch.uk) if you have any Foxes booking queries during the booking period.

### **Nursery Extended Care**

As for Foxes above, booking for nursery children to attend extended care is also available to be booked via Scopay from Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021. We appreciate that working patterns and requests for extended care may increase as the weeks progress and we will endeavour to accept additional bookings after the closing date.

### **School Dinners – *please see additional information***

School dinners are £2.25 per day and you can book them half termly. If you had already signed up for school dinners before lockdown this will continue. Please email the office [enquiry@deanery.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@deanery.bham.sch.uk) if you would like to book your child school dinners or if you would like us to check if your child is signed up. Payments are made via Scopay, please check your balance for payment on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. If you have a credit balance this will automatically be applied to your account. If you wish to cancel this at any stage please give a half term's notice in writing.

### **Late**

Government guidance details that parents do not gather on the school premises and there is no access to the school site, including the school office, without an appointment. If a child is late for school, they should be accompanied to the main reception area. Outside school, social distancing will continue to be adhered to and parents are asked to wait on the path. We will undertake '1 in, 1 out' and parents should enter the first door and contact the office via intercom. The child will be allowed into school and will be collected and taken to class by a teaching assistant who is allocated to the year group.

Please do not hesitate to contact the office; should you have any queries, our staff are ready to help.

### **Parent teacher consultations and after school clubs.**

Virtual consultations will be conducted at the end of this half term (30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March), more details will follow shortly.

We are working with our sports clubs and extra-curricular providers to be able to put together a comprehensive package of activities for the summer term. Again, details will be shared in due course. We will also communicate our approach to prevent parents paying for both Foxes and afterschool clubs, should both be required.

We are really looking forward to being able to welcome all of our children back to school on March 8<sup>th</sup> and we appreciate your continued support.

With very best wishes.

Jayne Lockett  
Head Teacher