



Full Re-opening of Ongar Place Primary March 8th 2021

Dear Parents

As you will have heard in the media, the government are intending to reopen schools on Monday 8th March. We are delighted that we will be able to welcome all our children back to school.

Some guidance for schools was issued on Tuesday. I have no doubt that it will change over the next couple of weeks but I wanted to share some of our plans for reopening the school so you can begin to prepare the children and yourself.

Attendance

- All children should attend school from 8th March
- If a child is considered clinically extremely vulnerable parents need to supply a letter from the doctor to the school
- Breakfast club will restart from Tuesday 9th March
- Drop off 8.55am and pick up 3.20pm will be the same as before. Parents must follow the one way system, keep their distance from others. Children will meet their teachers on the front field and enter the school through an outside door.
- Teachers should not be approached by parents but Mrs Reardon, Mrs Good and Mrs Pirie will be available to talk to.
- No parent is to come into school uninvited.

Organisation

- Children will be in their normal classes. There will be no mixing of classes for other activities, apart from Breakfast Club. This will be reviewed at Easter.
- Children will be with their teacher and teaching assistants. They may also be taught by Mrs Brown, Mr Good and Mrs Meyer. Additional teachers will ensure they keep distanced.
- Mrs Gailor and Mrs Straker will be available for children or parents to talk to.
- All children will eat in the hall at lunch time but will be seated with their own class.
- Children will be with their own class for break and lunch play
- There will be no assemblies in the hall.

Uniforms and Bags

- Pupils should wear school uniform and SCHOOL SHOES. Summer or winter uniform can be worn. (I appreciate that some children may have grown out of their uniform and it may take time to replace this)
- Children in Y1-6 should wear their PE kit to school on days they have PE, they will be told this on Monday.
- YR need to bring PE kit to school– learning to change is part of their education!
- Children can bring book bags and bags to school to carry essential items (stationery, lunchboxes, books, water bottles). Please avoid bring in extra things from home.
- KS2 Children may bring a healthy snack (tuck shop will remain closed)
- KS1 and Reception Children will receive their fruit as usual

Illness

- Any child who presents with symptoms of Covid 19 (high temperature, cough etc) will be sent home and given advice regarding isolation, testing and return.
- Children will be unable to attend school if they
 - have symptoms or have had a positive test result
 - live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive
 - are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (this could include isolation of a whole class if there is a confirmed case.)
- Please contact the office by 9.30 if your child is ill.

Cleaning and Hygiene

- Teaching spaces will be cleaned following use by one group of pupils.
- Resources will be regularly cleaned and will be cleaned before sharing with another class.
- Handwashing will be supervised for younger children and will take place regularly.
- Children will be reminded to 'catch it, bin it, kill it'.

Learning in school and homework

- The lessons in the first week back will support children in returning to school and address any worries or concerns they may have.
- We will be reviewing the curriculum to see what children need to learn. We will keep you informed of any changes.
- The majority of homework will be set using Seesaw. This will keep the children's skills up to date and avoid the passing of books and paper from school to home.

All of these actions will be kept under review and changes made as new evidence or guidance suggests.

Once again, this is a huge amount of information to take in but any restrictions have been put in place to protect children, staff and parents. My hope is that children return to school, they feel safe, are happy and quickly resume their learning.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can provide any support or help.
With all best wishes

Mrs T L Good

Official guidance can be found in the following documents:

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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19>