

# Temple Herdewkye Primary School and Nursery

Re-opening of school to all pupils.

*August 2020*



Head teacher: Mrs M. Godfrey

Admin Officer: Mrs L. Dodd (01926 641316)

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all enjoying a restful break.

During the Autumn Term, I will be based at Bishops Itchington Primary School as Executive Head Teacher. For the majority of the time, I will be based there. I will be present in Temple Herdewkye school at least twice a week and I can be called upon if needed.

Mr David Hibberd, Head Teacher of Byfield School (also part of Stowe Valley MAT) will be returning to lead the school in my absence. He will be at Temple Herdewkye for at least two days a week and I hope that you give him a warm welcome and support him in his role. Senior Teacher Amy Fisher will also continue to undertake her Senior Teacher role during this time.

When we closed for the summer holidays, many of our pupils had managed to return to school and meet their new teachers. It was reassuring to end on such a positive note after the unprecedented events of the previous few months.

As you are aware, the Government has announced that schools should fully reopen from the start of Autumn Term 2020 for **all** pupils. They have decided to do this on the basis of:

- The prevalence of Coronavirus is decreasing
- The new NHS 'Test and Trace' system being in place
- Greater clarity about the measures that need to be in place to create safe environments in schools
- Time out of school being detrimental to children's development
- The low risk to children of becoming severely ill from Coronavirus

We are re-opening to staff on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 when staff will attend an Inset Day.

**We will welcome all pupils back to school on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.**

The school has continued to work hard to ensure that the school site and procedures put in place during the school day lessen the risks of the transmission of Covid-19.

### **Responsibility**

We cannot be responsible for what happens beyond our school gates and therefore remind parents and pupils to do the right thing and follow the rules, so as to protect our school population. We all have a part to play to reduce risk. It is extremely important that you follow the procedures set out below.

In addition, we ask that all parents follow the government guidelines set out as part of the continual easing of the lockdown.

### **Attendance**

Attendance will be mandatory in September, as the government expects all pupils to attend school. We'll be recording attendance and following up on any absences. If your children have been staying at home due to the current shielding guidance, note that the government paused this guidance on 1<sup>st</sup> August. As such, if there's a continued decline in coronavirus transmission rates, they should be able to come to school in September.

However, if you've received clinical or public health advice that your children should still remain at home even in September, please let us know and continue to follow that guidance. We'll be offering

remote education to these pupils. If you have worries about your child attending in September, it is important that you get in touch with the school to discuss the concerns so we can provide reassurance of the measures we are putting in place to reduce the risk in school.

### Uniform

We encourage all pupils to return to school in full uniform (see uniform checklist) so that they remain smart, safe and comfortable. Uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of the school and sets an appropriate tone.

If you have financial difficulty purchasing the correct school uniform, please contact the school office. Our PTA has a varied stock of good quality uniform that they will be able to provide at very low cost.

We expect all pupils to wear school shoes.

Uniforms do not need to be cleaned more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.

### PE kits

- Pupils can bring PE kits with them on Monday morning and they should remain in school all week (please see the uniform checklist for details of the P.E. kit)
- P. E. kits can be taken home on Friday so they can be washed and returned to school the following week.
- Please, please ensure that all P.E. kit items are named – lost items can then be returned to their rightful owner.

### Arrival Time

- Your child/children should arrive at their allocated gate in time for the gate to open at 8.50 p.m.
- No late arrivals please
- If you have more than one child, you may select the most suitable gate and all of your children can enter through that gate. Staff will ensure that all pupils reach their class.
- If you have more than one child and you wish to walk them all to their allocated gate, then you are welcome to do this. We are a small school and staff will soon learn who they are expecting.
- Gates will be locked at 9.00 a.m.
- Children are not required to wear facemasks. If they arrive at school with a face mask, they will be asked to remove it before entering the playground/school.
- All pupils will be required to use hand sanitiser on entering the school. New hand sanitiser stations have been installed throughout the school
- **School bags (clearly named) are now allowed in school but only minimal equipment is required. A lunchbox, a morning snack for KS2 pupils, a water bottle and a reading book. All other equipment will be provided.**
- No toys, games or cards are allowed in school
- Depending on the weather, your child is now able to bring a hat or coat (named please)

Class Bubbles	Arrival time	Entrance/Departure	Departure time
Before School Club	From 7.45 a.m.	School Front Entrance	
Nursery Class	From 9.15 a.m.	Early Years Gate	3.00. p.m.
Reception Class	From 8.50 a.m.	Early Years Gate	3.15 p.m.

Year 1 and 2 Class	From 8.50 a.m.	Fort Gate	3.15 p.m.
Year 3 and 4 Class	From 8.50 a.m.	Fire Gate	3.15 p.m.
Year 5 and 6 Class	From 8.50 a.m.	School Front Entrance	3.15 p.m.
After-school Club		School Front Entrance	Until 6.00 p.m.

*Please note that all gates will be clearly signposted.*

### **Class Bubbles**

It is still important to reduce contact as much as possible and this can be achieved by working in consistent class groups and by minimising the contact between other groups and people.

- Each class will become a class bubble with at least two members of staff
- All pupils will sanitise their hands on entering the school/class
- Many of the classrooms will have front facing desks
- Teachers will mainly teach from the front of the class so as to minimise contact with pupils
- Any unnecessary items will be removed from the classroom
- Each pupil in KS1 and KS2 will have dedicated equipment on their table (pens, pencils, etc.)
- Pupils will eat their lunch together in their classrooms
- Pupils will play together and will not mix with other pupils.
- All classes will have their own toilets and a 'one in - one out' system will be in operation
- Toilets will be cleaned during the school day
- There are handwashing basins for each class and newly installed hand sanitisers throughout the school
- There is signage and posters through the school to remind pupils about the importance of handwashing. Staff will remind pupils about these routines throughout the school day
- Each class will be allocated a play area and break-times will be staggered
- Classrooms will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of the day
- There will be no group gatherings so assemblies will take place in class

Children will be reminded about all the new procedures when they return to school in September

### **Lunchtime**

- You may order a hot or cold deli bag in the usual way from Parent Pay
- You may wish to send your child in with a packed lunch. Please try and keep packaging to a minimum
- Pupils will eat in their classrooms and they will then be escorted by the Mid-Day Supervisor to their dedicated play area
- Each play area will have dedicated play equipment
- Pupils will sanitise their hands before they eat, before going out to play and when they come in from playing
- The tables in the classroom will be wiped down before and after children have eaten

### **If someone has symptoms**

- The school will be provided with a small number of testing kits that can be given to parents collecting a child with symptoms or staff with symptoms
- We ask parents and staff to inform the school immediately of the results of a test. You will not be asked for evidence of a negative test or other medical evidence

- The self-isolation period for those with symptoms and/or those who test positive has increased from 7 to 10 days.

#### **If there is a confirmed case of coronavirus**

- If someone has tested positive, the school will contact our local health protection team
- This team will also contact the school if they are aware that someone at our school has tested positive. The HP team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who's been in close contact with the person when they were infectious and make sure they are asked to self-isolate.

To help our local health protection team, we will keep a record of pupils and staff in each group, and any close contact that takes place between children and staff. We will not share the names or details of people with coronavirus unless it is essential for protecting others.

#### **If there's a possible outbreak**

If there are 2 more cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in the sickness absence where coronavirus is suspected, we will work with our local health protection team to decide if additional action is needed. In some cases, the HP team may recommend that a larger number of pupils self-isolate as a precautionary measure, such as the whole year group. Whole school closure will not generally be necessary unless our local health protection team advises it. If an outbreak is confirmed, a mobile testing unit may be dispatched to the school.

#### **If you have symptoms**

It is vital that staff, pupils and parents:

- Do not come into the school if they have symptoms
- Return home to self-isolate if they develop the symptoms in school
- Are ready and willing to book a test if they (or their child) are displaying symptoms. All children can be tested, including children under 5. Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus can and should get a test.
- Inform the school immediately of the results of a test
- Self-isolate if they have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for coronavirus, or if anyone in their household develops symptoms of coronavirus.

**Essential workers, which includes anyone involved in education or childcare, have priority access to testing.**

#### **If someone tests negative:**

If they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus, they can stop self-isolating. Other members of their household can also stop self-isolating.

#### **If someone tests positive:**

They should follow the 'stay as home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection' and they must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than a cough or a loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they have a

high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

### **School Trips**

We have no school trips planned for September. We will review whether we will offer local day trips at the end of September.

### **Curriculum**

We will still be providing an ambitious broad and balanced curriculum.

Teachers will send out information regarding Autumn Term curriculum plans and routines for each class early in the Autumn Term. This will explain what will be covered in the Autumn Term and how any gaps in knowledge created over lockdown will be addressed

All national tests will be re-instated this year, and this includes:

- Year 1 phonics tests
- KS1 tests
- Year 4 Multiplication tests
- KS2 tests

If a child is unable to attend, on-line learning will be provided for them.

### **Before and After-school care**

This facility will open on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and sessions will be held in the school hall.

- Morning 7.45 a.m. – 8.55 a.m.
- After-school 3.15 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

This club is led by Mrs Sam Johnson and session can be booked on Parent Pay in the usual way. If you have any queries regarding this facility, please contact Mrs Dodd in the school office and she will be happy to help you.

The Club will avoid activities that involve singing, chanting or shouting. Contact sports will be avoided, and outdoor play will be promoted where-ever possible.

Staff will keep their distance from pupils and other staff as much as they can (ideally 2 metres apart). This won't always be possible, particularly when working with younger children, but close face-to-face contact will be avoided, and time spent within 1 metre will be minimised.

Staff will be rigorous about hand washing and respiratory hygiene.

### **Pastoral support**

We are aware that the lockdown has been a difficult time for many of us, including our pupils. Please let us know if you or your child will need extra support when returning to school in September, such as if they feel anxious about coming back or they are experiencing bereavement.

**Our current plans to support your children's wellbeing during this time:**

We will support general pupil wellbeing through pastoral activities

- Additional PSHE lessons to cover the current climate (PSHE Association)
- All classes will take part in a 'recovery' curriculum at the beginning of term. This is a common theme across the whole school
- Signposting to external services such as 'Young Minds' and 'Family Information Services'.

And finally, we are extremely grateful for all the support we have received so far from our school community. I would like to thank all staff members and community members for their continued commitment to Temple Herdewkye Primary School and Nursery. Any new guidance will be shared with all parties when it becomes available.

We look forward to an active, enjoyable, safe Autumn Term.

Mrs Maggie Godfrey

(Headteacher)