



Headteacher: Mrs Katherine Russell (B.Ed Hons, Dip, NPQH, MA)

10<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents,

Further to our letter to you on 26<sup>th</sup> June I now am able to share with you the arrangements for school starting back in September, in response to the guidance that was issued to schools last week from the Department of Education (DfE).

All children in years 1 – 4 will return to school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, full time. Whilst it has not been mandatory to send your child back to school this term, it has been made very clear by the Department of Education that attendance is compulsory from September. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance and punctuality will apply, including:

*“parents’ duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;*

*Schools’ responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence;*

*the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities’ codes of conduct”*

*DfE July 2020*

## **We will continue to follow the advice from the DfE which states that from September 2020:**

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home – If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a **new, continuous** cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow ‘stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection’, which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and **must** arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms. **The school will require visual confirmation that the test has taken place and the results of that test.**
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contact and maximise distancing between those in school **wherever possible** and minimise potential for contamination **so far as is reasonably practical**. This includes:
  - Grouping the children together in class bubbles and when possible minimising contact between the class bubbles inside school.
  - Using Key Stage Bubbles (Early Years Bubble = Reception Class; Key Stage 1 Bubble = Year 1 and Year 2; Key Stage 2 Bubble = Year 3 and Year 4) for mixing at break and lunchtimes.
  - Breakfast Club being organised by Key Stage Bubbles.
  - Staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as **much as possible**.



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Healthy Schools

## **DROP OFF AND PICK UP**

To avoid close contact between large groups of parents and pupils on school site where there is limited space we will be continuing the 'walking bus' system developed during lock-down for drop-off and pick-up.

Children, whether arriving by car or on foot, must be dropped off and picked up in the **South Meadow Field (you can access this from Meadow Lane Car Park)**. **Where possible – children should be accompanied by one adult only please.**

As this is a large outside area we do not need to stagger drop off or pick up times, however for ease of congestion there will be a window of time between **8:40am and 8:50am for drop-off** and a window of between **3:10pm and 3:20pm** for pick-up.

**We ask that parents give due consideration to travel and parking time and are not late for these windows of time.**

We also ask that parents are mindful of social distancing requirements (1metre plus) and **do not approach school staff in the field to convey information and messages to school regarding your child**. Please instead contact the school office by phone or email.

Detailed information about how to pay for lunches, order uniform, drop off medication and other school administration requirements that would usually take place at the school office, will be issued at the start of the academic year.

## **UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT**

Children are expected to wear school uniform each day. Children will be able to bring in book bags and will take home reading books as usual. We ask that any unnecessary items remain at home – no toys, cuddly teddies etc should be brought in, this includes key rings on bookbags etc. **Water bottles are essential** as cups at the classroom sinks will not be provided and the water fountain in the playground will not be in use.

## **VISITING ADULTS IN SCHOOL**

We will continue to limit the number of adults in school so any queries, messages etc, should be phoned in or emailed in to the school office. Should we require parents to come into school for any reason, this will be arranged on a scheduled basis organised by the school office.

We are all looking forward to having the school full again and getting back to some kind of normality.

We hope that this letter answers most of your queries but should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office on [office@etonporny.com](mailto:office@etonporny.com)

Best regards  
Katherine Russell  
Headteacher