

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## Important information regarding anticipated return to school in September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all keeping well.

I am sure many of you will have welcomed the announcement by the Government that all children will return to school in September. This is good news and we are all really looking forward to welcoming the children back to school. Currently, we are anticipating that children in Year 1 through to Year 6 will return to school full time on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. We also look forward to hosting some stay and play sessions for our Nursery and Reception children from Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September through to Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September. You will have received a separate letter if your child is due to start in Nursery or Reception, with the details of the stay and play and when their full time or part time sessions will start. As always, our priority across the ATLP and at Slade remains the safety and well being of our pupils, staff and of course, parents and members of our wider community. Therefore, when we reopen, we will be implementing the guidance set out by the government to continue to mitigate against risk.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES TO MINIMISE RISK**

In order to re-open to all year groups in the safest way, the government and Public Health England have set out a series of measures we should implement. These measures fall into one of two categories; limiting contact between pupils and implementing hygiene measures.

The essential measures we will be implementing include:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- thoroughly and frequently washing hands
- coughing into the crease of your elbow
- sneezing into a tissue and putting it in the bin before washing your hands (catch it, bin it, kill it).
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contact, maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

At Slade we are planning on reducing contact in the following ways:

- grouping children together in class group bubbles (Y2 -Y6)
- grouping children together in a year group bubble in Nursery, Reception and Year 1.
- avoiding contact between different year groups or bubbles
- arranging Year 2 – Year 6 classrooms with forward facing desks
- asking staff to maintain distance from pupils not in their bubble and other staff in school as much as possible

### **CLASS AND YEAR GROUP BUBBLES**

As you will know, the Government have acknowledged that unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to socially distance and therefore primary schools have been asked to reduce contact between children. **We are also proposing that our year groups start school and finish school at different times. There will be different entrances and exits for different year groups so**

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Head Teacher: Ms J Maskell - Slade Primary School, Slade Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B23 7PX  
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**please familiarise yourself with your entrance/exit before returning to school.** This is to limit congestion at the start and end of the day and support social/physical distancing requirements. We are also proposing that children will have staggered playtimes and staggered lunchtime too.

Please see below details of the proposed start and finish times for each of the year groups.

Phase	Year Group	Entrance/exit	Arrival	Dismissal
EYFS	Nursery	EYFS/KS1 - Gate Broomfield Road – down driveway into Nursery class	8.30am morning session  12.15 pm Afternoon session	11.30 am  3.15 pm
	RF	Pedestrian gate 3 on Broomfield rd (next to main gate. Up to ramp and in through door at top of ramp.	8.45 am	3.15 pm
	RG	Pedestrian gate 3 on Broomfield rd (next to main gate. Up to ramp and in through door at top of ramp.	8.45am	3.15 pm
Key Stage 1	1P	EYFS/KS1 gate – Broomfield Road	8.50 am	3.20 pm
	1K	EYFS/KS1 gate – Broomfield Road	8.50 am	3.20 pm
	2S	KS2 gate on Slade Road – children will be net on the playground by their teacher	8.50 am	3.20 pm
	2H	KS2 gate on Slade Road – children will be net on the playground by their teacher	8.50 am	3.20pm
Key Stage 2	3P	KS2 gate on Slade Road and door at side of 3P	8.55 am	3.25pm
	3J	KS2 gate on Slade Road and door directly into classroom on playground	8.55am	3.25pm
	4B	Pedestrian gate 1 Slade Road then through bad weather entrance	8.55 am	3.25 pm
	4K	Pedestrian gate 1 Slade Road then through bad weather entrance	8.55 am	3.25 pm
	5S	Pedestrian gate 1 Slade Road then through bad weather entrance	8.45 am	3.15 pm
	5G	Pedestrian gate 1 Slade Road then through bad weather entrance	8.45am	3.15pm
	6S	Pedestrian gate 2 by Inclusion hub – Broomfield Road	8.45 am	3.15 pm
	6B	Pedestrian gate 2 by Inclusion hub – Broomfield Road	8.45	3.15pm

We would ask that, where your child returns to school in September, you drop your child off and collect them from the gate identified in the above table. We kindly request that adults do not come onto site. Staff will be at the entry/exit points to greet children and see them out to you safely at the end of each day. If you do wish to meet with your child's class teacher or another member of the team, then you will need to contact school to arrange an appointment time for this.

## CURRICULUM PROVISION

As we return to school in September 2020, many of our children will have been out of school for a little over 5 months. As such, our curriculum will need to be responsive and precisely focused to address gaps in learning. Our curriculum delivery will be underpinned by three core principles:

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- Strong, purposeful teaching that maximises learning time;
- Well-planned, targeted schemes of work supported by excellent assessment for learning;
- High quality welfare and pastoral systems (daily Personal Development and Well-being teaching)

We remain committed to ensuring our children progress socially, emotionally and academically through well-taught, progressive curriculum content. We understand that children make good progress across the curriculum and in individual subject disciplines when we build on what they already know and what they can already do. As we recover from the prolonged absence we will prioritise learning in the following subjects:

- **English** (communication, speaking and listening, phonics, reading, writing including handwriting).
- **Maths** (arithmetic, reasoning and problem solving).
- **Science**
- **Personal Development and Well-Being.**
- **Physical Education**

Other curriculum areas will also be taught and where possible, will be taught through the subjects identified.

## LUNCHTIMES

Our school kitchen will reopen from the start of the autumn term and normal legal requirements will apply around provision of food to all pupils who want it, including for those eligible for benefits-related free school meals or universal infant free school meals. Our school kitchen will comply with the [guidance for food businesses on coronavirus](#) (COVID-19).

**During the first half term, we are anticipating serving cold meals in a ‘grab bag’ style to children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2.**

We wanted to start offering hot meals and build upon this as we move through the term, therefore, we will be offering hot meals to our children entitled to free school meals in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. The remainder of the children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be able to either purchase a school lunch which will be a ‘grab bag’ or bring their own packed lunch.

Children with grab bags and packed lunches will be able to eat their lunch in classrooms so as to remain within their bubbles and minimise movement around school and contact with children assigned to other year group bubbles. Children who will be served a hot meal will have a timetabled slot to go to the dinner hall where they will sit in clearly labelled zones for their class bubble.

There will be **no mid-morning toast available** to purchase and so children will need to bring their own drink (water bottle clearly labelled with their name) and healthy snack to school with them.

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 will continue to have toasters and facilities to make their toast in their provision.

## VISITORS TO SCHOOL

We will of course ensure in September that appropriate support is made available for pupils with SEND, and this will mean welcoming external professionals to schools on some occasions. However visitors will only be permitted to Slade on an appointment basis. All visitors will then report to the main entrance where the

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usual safeguarding procedures will be carried out. We will be limiting visitors to school to those only absolutely necessary. **Parents should come into school buildings only when strictly necessary, by appointment, and ideally only one at a time.**

### EXTRA CURRICULAR PROVISION

In order to carry out the protected measures outlined by the Government to limit contacts and maximise social distancing, we have taken the decision that there will be no extra-curricular clubs at the end of the school day during the Autumn term.

**Kids Club** will reopen in September. Parents wishing to send their child to kids club will need to pre book the sessions and in order to keep groups as consistent as possible, we will only be able to accommodate bookings for 5 mornings, 5 afternoons or both the 5 morning and afternoon sessions. So, for example, a child that needs Kids Club on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings will have to also book for Tuesday and Thursday morning. I appreciate that this is not ideal and we will review this if any new guidance is published. These places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

### ATTENDANCE

**When children return to school in September we kindly ask that they return wearing their school uniform.** The usual rules on school attendance will apply including:

- parents' duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;
- parents' duty to inform school on the first day of absence the reason for the absence; this is all the more important in the current climate;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence

**We would ask that you do not send your child to school if they become unwell, especially if they or a member of their household has symptoms of the coronavirus.** We also ask that you limit the amount of equipment your child brings into school each day to essentials, such as lunch boxes, sun hats, coats, books and a water bottle clearly labelled with their name.

Please be assured that our number one priority remains the children's well-being. We appreciate that the coronavirus outbreak may have caused significant wellbeing difficulties for some children and we want to be able to support them on their return to school. Their assigned teaching staff are committed to doing this. If your child is worrying about coming back to school, you could;

- talk to your child in a positive way about school, seeing friends and teachers again.
- help them to understand how social distancing works and make sure they can wash their hands properly themselves.
- let them know that school may seem a bit different, but their teachers are doing everything to make sure that it is safe.
- continue sharing the stories with your child that staff have uploaded to 'Story time at Slade' on YouTube.

If you have any questions about what will be happening for your child when they return to school, then please do not hesitate to contact us at [enquiry@slade.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@slade.bham.sch.uk)

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We will then prepare a 'Frequently Asked Questions' document to circulate to everyone before the end of term on Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> July. Please be assured that all relevant documentation including the ATLP risk assessment, once approved by the Trust Board will be uploaded onto our school website for your reference. I will contact you in August to advise of any changes or amendments to this draft plan.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your tremendous support during the past year and wish you all a lovely summer break.

Yours Sincerely



Ms J Maskell  
Headteacher

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