



Thurlaston CE (Aided) Primary

Teaching and living the Christian way

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Dear Parent/Carer,

This letter contains information for ALL parents so please read it carefully.

The government has decided that all schools should reopen to all children at the start of the autumn term. For schools to be able to do this a range of measures must be in place to make school the safest it can be whilst ensuring an ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum. The government have decided that attendance will return to being **compulsory** and fines can be issued by the Local Authority for non-attendance.

School recognises, as I am sure you do, that we cannot remove all risks. We also recognise some parents and children will be more anxious than others. Please speak to us if you are overly anxious.

Since 1st June school has been open to approximately half the children. During that time we are thankful we have had no cases of coronavirus or its transmission. However we are not complacent.

The government has put in a "Hierarchy of Controls" for schools to follow. Here are the essential controls in order:

Prevention:

- 1) minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
 - 2) clean hands thoroughly more often than usual
 - 3) ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
 - 4) introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
 - 5) minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible
 - 6) where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Numbers 1 to 4 must be in place in all schools, all the time.
 - Number 5 must be properly considered and schools must put in place measures that suit their particular circumstances.
 - Number 6 applies in specific circumstances.

Response to any infection:

- 7) engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
 - 8) manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
 - 9) contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice
- Numbers 7 to 9 must be followed in every case where they are relevant.

We have updated our risk assessment and procedures to follow these measures. Below are parts that you need to be aware of.

We will be teaching and supervising the children in discreet groups. We will have 3 approximately equal sized groups. Class 1 and 2 are one group; class 3 is one group and class 4 is one group. We are calling these “bubbles”.

Children will be kept in bubbles throughout the day with the same staff supporting them throughout. School will try to minimise their contact with other bubbles. School will encourage good hand hygiene and have increased regularity of cleaning in school.

Children **must not** attend school if they show any symptoms of coronavirus and must self-isolate until they have tested negatively or completed a full 7 days. (The rest of the family should isolate for 14 days unless a negative test result is received when they will no longer need to isolate.)

Anyone who has been contacted by Test and Trace and told to isolate should not be in school.

Should a child develop symptoms in school, you will be called to collect your child which you should do promptly. You will then need to isolate until a negative test result is received.

If your child tests positively or if you have been in school and test positively you should let school know. School will then contact Public Health England for advice on who, if anyone, should be sent home to isolate. This may be individuals, a complete bubble or the whole school. It is very unlikely to be the whole school.

School starts back for children on 26th August at 8:55am with the doors opening at 8:45am. We will not have a staggered start as the children will be entering the school building through 4 different entrances. Class 1 through the side entrance and straight into class: class 2 by the front door and then through the library into class: class 3 by the door nearest their classroom; class 4 by the Class 4 cloakroom door. Parents will not be allowed in school except by appointment.

We would like to minimise the number of parents on site at drop off and pick up time. Please can only one adult collect children. We would encourage children from year 4 upwards to walk to school on their own either from home or from a short distance from school if they are mature enough to do so. Parents should remain socially distanced at all times. Once you have collected your child/ren please can you leave the school site. Please send money to school in a named, sealed envelope e.g. lunch money.

We will be encouraging hand hygiene. If you wish to provide your child with their own hand sanitiser because they have sensitive skin you are welcome to do so. Please ensure your child also has tissues. (There will be some in school). Children should not bring unnecessary items into school.

I want to end by thanking you for your support and wish you and your family good health and safety. This can be achieved best as we follow the guidelines the government has given us. Have a great and relaxing summer but keep safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Beetham', written in a cursive style.

Gavin Beetham