



'Enabling every child to fulfil his/her potential in a nurturing Christian environment.'

24th July, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents for your kind words, messages and presents. At the end of a very unusual, long school year it is really appreciated.

We are aware that our return to school in September, and our 'new normal' may well be difficult for some children and their families, so we felt that it would be useful to share some of the key arrangements well in advance. We have also attached a 'Helpful Tips for Parents and Carers' for children returning to school post Covid-19, developed by Winsford CAMHS, which has lots of useful ideas for all children.

We are in the process of updating our Covid-19 risk assessment/plan and an update from the Sage Committee on August 11th, but we are anticipating the children being split into 2 bubbles: Infant and Junior. With those groups in mind our daily timetable will be:

Beginning of the Day

8.40-8.50am- Infant children to be dropped off and wait in the bottom playground (N.B. older siblings can be dropped off at the same time).

8.40-8.55am- Junior children to be dropped off and sent to the top playground.

8.50am- Infant children to wash hands and enter school.

9.00am- Infant learning begins.

9.00am- Junior children to wash hands and enter.

End of the Day

3.15pm- Infant children (without Junior siblings to be collected).

3.30pm- Junior Children and Infant siblings to be collected.

Reception and Years 1 and 2 will continue to be taught by Mrs. Chaloner and Mr. Coker in their normal classrooms and Years 3 and 4 will join together and be in Mr. Penny's normal Classroom (supported by Mrs. Tomlinson in the mornings and Mrs. Thompson in the afternoons). Due to the size of the Years 5 and 6 Classroom Years 5 and 6 will be taught in the Hall by Miss. Jones (with Mr. Heritage supporting all day and Mrs. Davies supporting in the mornings). We are expecting children to be able to sit next to other children at their tables, but the Juniors' tables will still be arranged in rows to limit the spread of germs. We are planning to have a school open day on Thursday 27th August, similar to the one last September, for children to visit the school and their classroom with their parents and familiarise themselves with any changes. Details of this, including how to book a time slot, will be sent nearer the time.

Lunches will continue to be made on-site by Mr. Mitchell but for the first few weeks they will continue to be picnic grab bags which will be delivered to the classrooms. Once the children have settled back into school, and



'Enabling every child to fulfil his/her potential in a nurturing Christian environment.'

our Risk Assessment allows, hot school dinners will commence. To avoid mixing bubbles, the Infants and Juniors will have separate break and lunchtimes.

As previously mentioned, teachers will be using September to assess the children in Reading (including phonics as appropriate), Writing and Maths (with a focus on place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). The majority of this will take place as part of everyday learning activities, rather than tests, to establish each child's strengths and areas that need more support. This information will be used both to plan our Covid-19 Recovery Curriculum, something every school is being asked to create, and will be shared with parents on our first Parents' Evening of the year on Monday, 12th October (3.45-7.00pm).

In the afternoons our focus will be on Science and Personal, Social and Emotional development to enable the children to process the events of the last few months. These activities, wherever possible, will be outside on our school grounds and in Primrose Wood (which is a very short walk from school) using the Forest Schools' approach (for which Mr Coker and Mrs. Chaloner are currently completing leader training). Therefore, in September, we will be asking all parents to provide their children with wellies and waterproofs (either a full suit or separate trousers and coat) that can be kept in school during the week. We believe that giving children the opportunity to reconnect with themselves, others and nature will ensure that all children are emotionally and socially in a good place, ready to learn. If parents have any concerns about their children's social or emotional wellbeing, post lockdown in the first instance, please speak to their Class Teacher.

We are hoping to run an early starters and 'The Den' after school care but this will be subject to numbers (as the Infants and Juniors will have to be kept separate). If you haven't done so already, please respond to our before/after school care 'Parent Questionnaire', on the School Spider App, or contact the School Office on admin@utkintonce.cheshire.sch.uk to express an interest.

Due to Covid-19 the daily School Bus pick-up has also had to be put on hold. This will be reviewed regularly and we will ensure that it is operational as soon as it is safe to do so. If any families, who have previously used the bus, find this challenging e.g. due to siblings in other schools, a change in circumstances, please let us know so that we can do whatever we can to support you.

We will send out more information as and when it becomes available. In the meantime if you have any further questions please contact the School Office or myself via the Head's email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Wishing you a much needed, relaxing holiday.

Yours sincerely

Lorna Pleavin