

Greenslade Primary School
1st September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I want to welcome you all back to a fresh start and a new academic year and to assure you that your child's safety and well-being is my absolute priority as we open our school again.

Next week, from Monday 7th September, all of our classes will begin to return to Greenslade. It will be wonderful to have everyone with us again. Our school was not the same with so many of our children learning from home for so long.

I have worked hard throughout the summer to keep up to date with the latest and constantly changing news and advice from the Government and other experts. I have completed our Risk Assessment and it will be available on our website very soon.

I am writing to remind you and update you with some vital information that you need to know before the children return next week. I sent you most of this information in July but will repeat it now for ease of reference.

Our staff will be using the two training days we have already booked on Thursday and Friday of this week to work through the Risk Assessments and Health and Safety arrangements that are required to welcome back all of our children.

As I told you in July, I also want staff to have two days to focus on implementing the brand new curriculum that we are introducing this year and to reinforce the principles of our Teaching and Learning Policy. **I therefore intend to close the school on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd September** to enable our children to benefit from the highest learning experiences throughout the year.

Below is a list of changes that you will need to be aware of to help you prepare for next week.

- From September 7th 2020 all of our classes begin to return to school.
- Attendance at school becomes compulsory again in September 2020.
- There will be a staggered start to the day with different classes arriving at different times, between 8:45 and 9:30.
- There will be a staggered end to the day with different classes leaving school at different times, between 3pm and 3:45.
- We will use all four gates to reduce the "gathering" of people outside the school. Each class will be allocated a gate.
- **Please see the attached sheet for your child's start and finish time and the gate they will be using.**
- Parents and Carers will not be allowed to come onto the premises without a prearranged appointment.
- Parents and Carers should only bring their child to school at the time they have been given to reduce the amount of contact at the school gate.

- Families coming to school using public transport should inform the school of this fact.
- Children will be required to wear school uniform.
- On PE days children should wear their PE kit all day to reduce any concerns about changing or having different sets of clothes in school.
- PE equipment will be cleaned thoroughly after each use.
- Children will need to bring a packed lunch as we will not be cooking on the premises.
- Families receiving Free School Meals and children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who automatically receive Universal Free School Meals will be given supermarket vouchers to enable them to purchase their packed lunch meals.
- Classes will become “bubbles” with restricted mixing and overlap of people between the bubbles.
- Any skin to skin contact such as handshakes will be discouraged.
- Staircases and corridors (as much as possible) will be one way.
- Lunchtimes and playtimes will be staggered to reduce the amount of contact between children.
- The playground will be segregated to reduce the amount of contact between children.
- No resources will be used at lunchtime to reduce the need to clean equipment.
- We will enhance the amount of cleaning across the school and additional hours have been allocated to ensure the school is constantly cleaned and kept as hygienic as possible.
- PPE and resources have been purchased to allow the safe application of First Aid and nappy changing as required.
- Children from different bubbles will need to share the same bathroom. These facilities will be supervised and cleaned regularly as part of our enhanced cleaning programme.
- **Social distancing for all of our children and particularly our younger children will be very difficult to enforce or guarantee at any time. We will work toward children “social distancing” as much as possible but we will be less able to ensure this in the playground compared to the more formal classroom setting.**
- Members of the SLT will be outside to supervise at break times and at the start and end of the day.
- All resources and areas of the school will be segregated so that a limited number of people use them. They will be cleaned at the end of each session and throughout the day as frequently as possible. In Key Stage 1 and 2, each child will have their own individual set of resources.
- Parents and Carers do not have to provide any school based resources other than a water bottle, to be kept in school, which we will clean every day.
- Children are welcome to bring in a morning break-time snack (**fruit only**) as we cannot supply our usual supply of playtime fruit.
- A programme of regular hand hygiene will be organized. Required resources will be in place. This will include soap and warm water as well as hand sanitizer. We will keep reminding children how to wash their hands thoroughly.
- We have installed additional sinks in the playground and outside toilets to ease the use of the basins and taps inside school.
- Children will be constantly trained to ensure they understand how they need to respond if they cough or sneeze.
- Additional tissues and extra bins have been purchased to help with this.

- The classrooms will be set up in line with Government guidelines and requirements.
- From Year One upwards tables will be facing forward to avoid “face to face” contact between children.
- Staff will teach from the front of the room and keep as much distance as possible.
- The current advice on face coverings (31/08/2020) is that children in primary schools in London do not have wear them. The Risk assessment and Action Plan means that even our corridors and stairs will not become congested so face coverings will not be required here, even by staff.
- Significant amounts of PPE has been purchased should this advice and guidance change.
- **If a child is unwell it is vital that they are kept at home.**
- **If a child shows the symptoms of Covid 19, then they should be taken for a Corona Virus Test and kept at home until the outcome is known.**
- If a child becomes unwell whilst in school we have an action plan in place to manage the situation until they are collected and taken home. Children will be supervised by a member of staff but isolated until they are collected.
- Schools are being issued with a small number of Corona Virus Tests.
- If a child is showing symptoms of Covid 19 whilst in school we will contact Parents and Carers immediately.
- If a child is showing symptoms of Covid 19 whilst in school we will give Parents a Carers a test to undertake. We will issue instructions on how to complete the test. Children should be isolated until the outcome of the test is known.
- If the test comes back as negative children can stop self-isolating as long as they feel well and they do not have Covid 19 symptoms. If they continue to have symptoms then they should continue to be isolated.
- If a test comes back as positive then the child should self-isolate for a further 10 days and everyone in the household should self-isolate for a further 14 days.
- If a child or a member of their family tests positive for Covid 19 then the Local Health Protection Team will be informed and we will follow their guidance as to who needs to be isolated and not come into school. Those people who have been in close contact will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days. The Health Protection Team will decide who has been in close contact following conversations with the school and the family.
- We are modifying our curriculum at the start of the year due to the amount of time many children have been away from school and we will aim to reintroduce our full curriculum offer by the summer term of 2021.
- We will aim to use various types of teacher assessment to find out children's starting points this term as they return to school and plan learning and teaching activities to meet their needs as best we can. We are aware our children will have had various and differing types of learning experiences over the last six months.
- **To help keep our community safe, it is absolutely vital that all of our families follow all of the social distancing expectations and all of the measures put into place by the Government to help prevent the spread of the virus. As a school, we are doing all we can but we will rely on you as Parents and Carers and families to follow all of the expectations in order to prevent us going into lockdown again.**

Yours sincerely *David Ashley* Headteacher

