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Friday 28th August 2020

Dear parents and carers

Re: full re-opening, Thursday 3rd September, The Mead – Hilperton Site.

I trust that this letter finds you well and you have managed to enjoy the summer break in some form or another in these strangest of times.

We are absolutely thrilled to be preparing for full re-opening on Thursday 3rd September, after the long months of only being open for key worker families since the end of March and our youngest pupils since June. On a personal level, I am extremely excited about leading this fantastic school and can't wait to get started.

Our aim is for school to feel as normal as possible: all children and adults back in the building, enjoying a full day of teaching and learning. To achieve this, we do of course have to make some adjustments. To be open fully, we have to have protective measures in place, in line with a statutory risk assessment; these are essential and have to be followed so that we can keep everyone safe whilst we are still dealing with the coronavirus pandemic. **Detailed plans** for re-opening were sent to all families in July and that substantial letter is included with this summary.

To summarise:

- Children will be taught in full class year group bubbles. They will not mix with children from other year groups. Staff will stay in year group bubbles too, with the exception of senior staff and specialist teachers who need to be able to move to different year groups to carry out their roles. Classrooms will have less furniture than normal; children will have their own tray for books and resources, and desks will be in rows rather than groups from years 2 to 6.
- Strict hand washing protocols will continue to be used throughout the day alongside additional cleaning – as has been the norm for children coming to school since March.
- Movement around the school will be more regulated than is usual, but easy to follow and designed to enable school to be as close to normal as possible.
- Parents and carers are not able to enter the school building and must follow the routines required for drop off and pick up. To avoid congestion, walking children to school or cycling are strongly recommended.

Continued overleaf\.....

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This is very much a case of what we have to do to get all children and staff safely back into school in line with the Government's statutory guidance – and protect families and the wider community.

Hilperston site staggered start and finish times ensure a full school day for all children.

Arrival time slot	Star Gate	Rainbow Gate	Orchard Gate	Finish time
8.30am – 8.40am	Year 2	The Forest	Year N	2.55pm
8.40am – 8.50am	Year 3	Year R		3.05pm
8.50am – 9.00am	Year 4	Year 1		3.15pm
9.00am – 9.10am	Year 5	Year 6		3.25pm

Lunch and play times are similarly staggered to ensure all children get the appropriate time to eat and play with a break from their classroom.

Lunch times:

	Hall – each class at designated table	Designated playground space, (as break)
Forest	11.45am – 12.15pm	12.15pm – 12.45pm
Y N	11.30am – 12.00pm	
Y R	11.45am – 12.15pm	12.15pm – 12.45pm
Y 1	12.15pm – 12.45pm	12.45pm – 1.15pm
Y 2	12.15pm – 12.45pm	12.45pm – 1.15pm
Y 3	12.45pm – 1.15pm	1.15pm – 1.45pm
Y 4	1.15pm – 1.45pm	12.45pm – 1.15pm
Y 5	12.45pm – 1.15pm	1.15pm – 1.45pm
Y 6	1.15pm – 1.45pm	12.45pm – 1.15pm

Please refer to the July correspondence for the more detailed information; this is intended as a quick summary only.

The first week in September will be devoted to getting all of the children used to being back in school full time, settled into their new classes and enjoying their return to the Mead. This will be tailored to the needs of each age group as appropriate and additional support will of course be given where needed. We anticipate that our excellent new curriculum, which we will launch after this short 're-focusing' period, will have children fully re-engaged with the love of learning and enjoying the thrill of being back in school full-time with their friends.

We appreciate that you will have questions and will be missing the normal discussions with your child's teacher at drop-off and pick-up times. There will, of course, always be senior staff and teachers present at these times for you to speak with and we understand an increased need to speak on the telephone if you have any concerns (although this obviously has limitations with the busy workings of a school day). Emails will also be responded to. To help with a more personalised communication, we will be organising a virtual / video based parents' consultation evening towards the end of September (more information to follow as term starts).

Please contact us if you have any concerns. It will all be a little bit different, but the aim is to get school running fully again with some simple but essential rules and routines in place to keep everyone safe in the circumstances we're in. What we can assure you of is great teaching and learning in a safe and happy school, with all the required protective measures fully in place.

Yours sincerely



Mark Stenton
Headteacher