

17th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you and your family are happy, safe and well.

The wider opening of school to Y1 and Reception children has gone very well and we are now in the position to share with you the plans for the complete reopening of Vernon Park for the new school year in September 2020.

In order to ensure the safety of all; children, parents and staff, we have had to make some small changes to the timings of the beginning and end of the day, as well as lunchtime.

The school term begins on Tuesday 1st of September 2020. Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd are Inset Days as detailed on the Holiday List on the school website.

Staffing

Congratulations to Mr Pattison who married Miss J Holland on 4th July. Mrs Sant, who has worked at Vernon Park since 2011, will retire this summer; we wish her good health and happiness in this new chapter of her life. We wish Mrs Crotty and Mrs White well as they leave Vernon Park to pursue new interests. Our best wishes go to Miss Spencer & Mr Thomas who will be getting married in August, followed by a move to teach in Dubai in September. Mrs Freeman has returned from Maternity Leave and we have appointed four new members of staff, Mrs Broxson (S&L Teacher), Miss Barton (Reception Teacher), Mrs Calhoun (UKS2 Teacher) and Miss Aiello (Teaching Assistant). Mr Lampard (HLTA) will be on paternity leave from September 2020. Mrs Bommer will be reducing her hours to 3 days per week.

Staffing for the Academic Year 2020 / 2021 will be:

Nursery - Miss Adams & Miss Pelmeare (TA)

Speech and Language - Mrs Stone (Monday & Tuesday), Mrs Broxson (Wednesday to Friday) & Mrs Blower (TA)

Reception - Miss Barton & Mrs Atkins (TA)
Miss Dakin - Early Years Lead & Mrs Ogden (TA)

**Key Stage 1
Y1 & Y2 -** Mrs Poyner, Miss Toolan (TA) & Miss Gaskell (TA)
Mrs Vernon - KS1 Lead (Monday to Wednesday) & Mrs Freeman
Thursday & Friday
Miss Brierley

**Lower Key Stage 2
Y3 & Y4 -** Miss Ridgway & Miss Slack (TA)
Mr Pattison
Mrs Mickle - LKS2 Lead

Upper Key Stage 2

Y5 & Y6 -

Mr Pearson

Mrs Calhoun

Miss Green - Deputy Head Teacher & UKS2 Lead (Monday to Wednesday), Mrs Ingram (Thursday & Friday) & Mrs Barton (TA)

HLTAs who cover classes: Miss Lee, Mrs Patton, Mrs Ogden and Mrs Rees.

Teaching Assistants who work across the school with your children: Mrs Singleton, Mrs Smith, Mrs Welsh, Mrs Arthington, Mrs Brown & Miss Aiello.

Organisation

Due to Covid-19, we have had to make changes to the organisation of our school day when we return in September.

The children will be divided into four bubbles; Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery & Reception, including Speech & Language), Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & Year 2), Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & Year 4) and Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 & Year 6). The children in these four bubbles will be the only children that your child will mix with for the foreseeable future. Playtime and break time will be staggered, formal assemblies cancelled and lunches will be eaten in the classroom. Our kitchen will be reopening on 3rd September and will be providing 'Grab Bags' initially, so that the children can eat their lunches in their classrooms.

Transition

As many of you will be aware, due to Covid-19, we have been unable to undertake our usual transition activities for those children who already attend Vernon Park and for the children who are going to be new to our school. We plan to support children's transition in September in the following ways:

EYFS staff will meet with parents and children between 3rd and 10th September to begin the transition process. An additional letter has already been sent to these families with further details. Parents and children will enter the site through the **EYFS/KS1 gate** to the left of the main entrance.

KS1 and KS2 children and families will receive a telephone call from their new teacher next week, between Monday 20th and Friday 24th July. This is an opportunity for introductions to be made and to discuss any information that is relevant to each child.

All children who will be in KS1 or KS2 in September will be invited into school for a transition day to meet with their new teachers and familiarize themselves with the new expectations and routines. They will have plenty of opportunity to talk with their peers and ask staff questions. On their transition day, children need to bring a healthy fruit or vegetable snack and their packed lunch, if they are not having school dinners.

Year group	Transition Day	Entrance/ Collection	Start Time	Finish Time
1	Thursday 3rd September	EYFS/KS1 gate	8.55am	3:00pm
3	Thursday 3rd September	main gate	9:05am	3:25pm
5	Thursday 3rd September	main gate	8:45am	3:05pm
2	Friday 4th September	EYFS/KS1 gate	8.55am	3:00pm
4	Friday 4th September	main gate	9:05am	3:25pm
6	Friday 4th September	main gate	8:45am	3:05pm

Children who have a sibling starting at an earlier time may come into school with their sibling through the same entrance and remain in the hall with their phase bubble until their year group's designated start time. Children who have a sibling finishing at an earlier time may be collected at the same time.

Whole School Opening

Breakfast and After School Club will open on **Monday 7th September 2020**; 8am until 9:15am and 3pm until 5:30pm (Monday to Thursday) and 5:20pm (Friday). The children will be based in the hall and the junior playground in their phase bubbles.

Monday 7th September 2020 is also when Year 1 - 6 bubbles begin the Autumn Term. Each key stage bubble will use the different start and finish times detailed below. In order to reduce the risks to families and to stop them from having to wait up to 30 minutes at the beginning and end of the day siblings may come into school and leave together. Siblings who arrive earlier than their bubble start time will be supervised in their Breakfast Club bubble. This supervision will not incur any charges.

Year Group	Entrance	Start Time	Finish Time
Y1 & Y2	EYFS/KS1 Gate	8:55am	3:00pm
Y3 & Y4	Main Entrance	9:05am	3:25pm
Y5 & Y6	Main Entrance	8:45am	3:05pm

Monday 14th September 2020 is the start date for all EYFS children, unless specific arrangements have been made. EYFS children, unless they have older siblings, will be admitted to school at **9:15am** and need to be collected at **3:15am**. For the first week, parents may accompany the children on to the school site via the **EYFS/KS1 gate**, sanitising hands, maintaining a 2 metre social distance from other children and staff and following the one-way system to drop the children with their class teachers, and then exiting the site through the main entrance gate.

All children will be required to attend school in their uniforms, unless they are having Forest School or PE. Coats will be kept in the cloakroom for EYFS & KS1 children. KS2 children will keep their coats with them in the classrooms. On the day when your child has Forest School, they need to wear warm clothes with long sleeves that you do not mind getting dirty. On days when your child has PE, they need to come into school wearing their PE kits as well as jogging bottoms and a warm top as the weather deteriorates. A separate letter has been sent with further information regarding swimming.

From September, book bags and lunchboxes can be brought into school and we will begin to issue reading books again.

Covid 19

Please be alert to Covid 19 symptoms. Your child must not attend school if they display any of these symptoms:

- High temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature);
- New, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual);
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child has any symptoms s/he must be tested and school must be notified of the results. We are expecting a delivery of a small number of home-testing kits which we will supply you with (while they last), if you do not wish to attend a test centre or wait to have one delivered. If the test is negative, your child may return to school. If they have one or more of these symptoms, they must self-isolate straight away for 7 days while you wait for the results or longer if they still have symptoms.

If they live in the same household as someone with coronavirus symptoms, they must self-isolate straight away for 14 days.

Travelling to School

In order to reduce the numbers of cars around school, I ask that where possible you walk to school with your children. If you need to drive, please do not drive along Bateson Street, Peak Street or Alpine Road. Please park well away from these streets and walk the rest of the way to school.

During the summer I will continue to receive updates from the DFE and LA. If there are any changes, local lockdown etc. we will communicate changes to you at the beginning of September.

Thank you for all of your support throughout this challenging year. Have a safe and happy summer and we are looking forward to welcoming you all back in September.

Mrs Claire Lee
Head Teacher