

Minster Junior School



3rd September Reopening Plan

Parents Information Booklet

12th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The government has set out its intent and plan for all children to return to school full time from September. It is based on a twin strategy of limiting contact between pupils and implementing hygiene measures.

Contact is to be limited in two main ways:

- Contact is to be limited to a Junior School 'Bubble'. With a maximum of 40 students in Junior School, this will be relatively straightforward to maintain.
- By maintaining distance between individuals wherever possible.

We are looking forward to welcoming our Junior School pupils on Thursday 3rd September.

I hope you find the following information useful. If after reading through the information pack you have further questions/queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch and we will endeavour to give you clarification.

Yours sincerely

Mr R. Burns

Group organisation

- We will operate as a 'Bubble' within The Minster School. The 40 students in Junior School (Years 3-6) will be a discrete bubble.
- The group will be taught by Mr Burns (Y5/6) and Mrs Britten (Y3/4).
- Until guidance alters again, there will be very limited access to the other departments within school. Members of staff will come to Junior School to deliver lessons, i.e. Music, Spanish and Technology. IT lessons will be delivered in the computer suites.
- The children will remain within this 'bubble' for the whole day, with the same members of staff for as much as possible.

Other staffing

- Mrs Gees will provide support for staff comfort breaks, planning time for the teachers, or step in if needed for any other reason.

Drop off routine

- In order to minimise contact with other year groups. Junior School will operate between 8.30am and 2.55pm.
- We ask that if you have arrived in the car and are early, remain in the car until it is time to come in. **Please note that the bus park will not be available for car parking.** We anticipate that with fewer people using public transport, there is likely to be congestion and would suggest the long stay car park behind the leisure centre as a good drop off and collection point.
- We respectfully ask that parents do not come onto the playground or enter the school, thereby supporting our aims to maximise social distancing.
- Please wait **outside** the junior school gate and a member of staff will greet your child.
- Please respect social distancing rules and do not gather for prolonged amounts of time to chat within this area.

- Children will be expected to use hand sanitizer, provided by school, in the playground prior to entering the school building.

Pick-up routine

- Pupils will leave school at 2.55pm. We will release your child to you at the Junior School gate.
- We respectfully ask that parents do not come onto the playground or enter the school, thereby supporting our aims to maximise social distancing.
- The children will be expected to use hand sanitizer, provided by school, in the playground prior to leaving the school site.
- Pupils with older siblings may wait until 3.00pm to be collected.

Classroom set up

- The classrooms will be set up so that desks are forward facing, in rows. Pupils will share desks with a nominated partner. There will be no movement between desks. Children will have their own resource wallet/box. In this will be individual sets of stationery. Children will not share materials.
- Sanitizer and tissues will be provided for each classroom. Children should bring a water bottle to school every day, and the bottle will stay on their desk so they can remain well hydrated. The bottle will be sent home every day for cleaning. Children will fill their water bottles from the drinking fountains, but not drink from the fountains directly.
- The partition wall will be reinstated and there will be two separate junior classrooms.

Playtimes

- The students will have 'staggered' playtimes in the junior playground. Pupils in Years 3 and 4 will have separate breaktimes to those in Years 5 and 6.
- Playtime equipment will be chosen in a way that supports social distancing and is easy to clean between uses.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available in the playground.
- Cones will be used as markers for social distancing when the groups are required to line up. Students will be allocated a specific classroom door to access the learning space and this will reduce the 'bottle-necks'.

Lunchtime

- In order to minimise movement around school, we strongly recommend that students bring a packed lunch with them. Whilst hot meals are available from the canteen in school, we would prefer to maintain our social bubble and reduce contact as much as possible.
- Children will either eat in the classroom or have a picnic outdoors (weather permitting). Desks will have been cleaned in preparation for dinner time.
- Mr Burns, Mrs Britten or Mrs Gees will supervise the children as they eat.

Curriculum

- Priorities for teachers as children return on 3rd September are:

- To consider their pupils' mental health and well-being and identify any pupils who may need additional support so they are ready to learn.
- Assess where pupils are in their learning, and consider what adjustments to their curriculum are needed over the coming weeks
- The government understands that schools will not simply go back to 'normal' from September. School will look different, and parents should be aware of this.
- We feel strongly that alongside some core subject work (mathematics, reading, writing), the children will need a significant amount of time spent on their personal, social and emotional development following the events of the last few months.
- We intend to have a number of opportunities throughout the week for sport and PE activities. Our PE sessions will be on Friday afternoons. Changing rooms will be closed for the foreseeable future and children are asked to come to school on Fridays in their PE kit.
- We will advise on swimming sessions when we have been given more information from the Schools Swimming Team.

Collective Worship

- We will be supported by the school chaplain. Acts of collective worship will take place in individual classes.

Uniform

- Children will be expected to wear full school uniform.
- PE kit should be worn on Fridays.

Health & Safety, & Hygiene

- Hygiene practices will play a major part of the measures that all schools need to minimise risk after re-opening.
- The government guidance says that PPE is not needed for general use within the school environment by staff or pupils. However, staff will use it if supporting with any accidents that require first aid to be given, or if supporting a child with toileting. They will also wear it if a child becomes ill at school and they are looking after them while waiting for a parent to pick them up.
- The children will be asked to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer several times during the day – on arrival, before snack, as they go out to play, as they come in after play, before lunch, after lunch, as they come in after lunch time play, before afternoon play, as they come in after afternoon play and prior to going home.
- This is in addition to the expectation to hand wash after coughing, sneezing, and toileting.
- The children will be asked to observe the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to coughs and sneezes.
- Our hand washes and sanitizers are intended to be gentle on the children's skin but parents are welcome to provide their child with a moisturising hand cream if you wish to.
- Toilets will be monitored carefully with one pupil using it at a time.
- The adult in each room will have a secure supply of cleaning spray and antibacterial wipes to clean surfaces, door handles, resources and equipment throughout the day.
- The cleaning staff will give a deeper clean in the evening and morning in preparation for the new school day.
- If a child feels unwell at school we will isolate them away from other 'bubbles'/groups, with adult supervision and contact parents to pick them up. The children will be isolated in a room on

the leadership corridor in the main school. In the case of a child being very unwell suddenly, we may need to contact emergency services, just as we would as part of our normal practice.

If there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in the school (taken directly from the Implementing Protective Measures document provided by Gov.UK)

- If a child or member of staff develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days.
- All staff and pupils attending school will have access to a test if they display symptoms, and would be encouraged to get tested in this scenario.
- Where the child or staff member tests negative, they can return to school and their fellow household members can end their self-isolation.
- As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or the wider school environment, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise school on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases, a larger number of other children may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps other 'bubbles'/groups or perhaps the whole school. Where schools are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole school will not generally be necessary.

We have produced a useful supplementary set of guidance about what to do in a suspected Covid 19 situation, which is sent with this guide and available on the school website.

If your child is classed as being clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable

- It is expected that children will return to school in September and the rules about compulsory education for all recommence. If you are worried about your child attending school please do not hesitate to make contact to discuss this and if your child is clinically extremely vulnerable you may wish to discuss with their consultant or doctor.

Living in a household with a clinically extremely vulnerable /clinically vulnerable person

- Regardless of home circumstances it is expected that all children return to school in September. If you have specific concerns about your situation it is advisable to discuss this with medical professionals who are treating those concerned. Please do not hesitate to make contact to discuss any matter.

This booklet details the plan at the time of writing and distributing to you all. You will be aware that this is a fast moving situation and changes may well take place at short notice.

Any further queries can be sent to:

r.burns@minster.notts.sch.uk

Thank you.