



Ref: ReOpeningMarch21Pri/CTY/hll

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Re-Opening Information for March 2021 – Primary**

We are all really looking forward to returning to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

We have, once again worked extremely hard to make school a safe environment for the return of ALL children. Measures include staggered starts, finishes, breaks and lunches; increased cleaning of areas; regular hand washing; social distancing and the removal of extra furniture to create more space. These are just some of the measures we have refreshed in order to operate safely. We will continue to review the measures daily based on current messages from Public Health and Government. The Department for Education have updated their guidance on the re-opening of schools and we have worked in consultation with the Wade Deacon Trust to put all of these plans in place.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support and dedication you have given to your children's education during this lockdown. I am sure, like staff in school, you have had to learn a lot of new skills very quickly – our computer skills have had to develop too. However, together we did it. The children in school and the children at home have worked hard. We know that everyone has worked at a different rate to suit their family and their circumstances and we hope that nobody has felt overwhelmed. Looking at the work you and your children have completed, many of you have really enjoyed yourselves. Thank you so much for all you have done. It is our turn again now.

### **Procedures and Timings**

#### **Class Bubbles**

Once again, children will work in class bubbles. Classes have been organised so that children will sit in pairs, facing forward, apart from in Red, Orange, Yellow, Green and Rainbow classes, where we will minimize contact as much as possible. Desks are well spaced, but it is not possible for children to sit 2 metres away from other children. Children are expected to remain facing forward and to work with their designated partners. Hand washing will be a regular feature of the day. This will allow us to confidently operate a track and trace system. Please support us by reinforcing and encouraging good social distancing and hand hygiene at home.

#### **Uniform**

All children should wear full school uniform. Please remember shoes must be plain black and bobbles/bows should be plain in colour and small. Earrings and jewellery should not be worn in school and should be left at home. Pupils will also need their PE kit for their PE lessons. If your child has grown during lockdown please endeavor to shop online or at a local supermarket for uniform before the children return. Boydells are accepting online orders for uniform as are Wynsors for shoes. Supermarkets have remained open throughout lockdown therefore, socks, shoes, white shirts (Key Stage 2) and white polo tops can be purchased here as usual.

#### **Equipment**

Children MUST not bring ANYTHING to school from home (apart from their packed lunch, which should be in a small lunch bag or carrier bag). All stationery is provided by school. Please support us in this by minimising the transfer of items between school and home as it helps reduce infection transmission.

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## **Start and End of Day**

It is ESSENTIAL that you only arrive at the assigned times for your children. We want to avoid large gatherings and have staggered the start and end of the day for safety reasons. If you arrive early, please stay in your car or away from the Plaza or gates until the correct time. The same one way system will operate each morning. Please enter the Plaza and drop your child at the correct gate/main door and leave via the exit gate. Parents are required to wear a face covering. If you need to pass on a message, please wait in the centre of the Plaza until a member of staff is available. Please do not wait by the gates or main doors as this will cause blockages. If you need to change your child's collection time please ensure an adult informs school.

## **Nursery**

The morning session starts at 8.30am and finishes at 11.30am. (Please drop off and collect from the Garden Gate)

The afternoon session starts at 12.15pm and finishes at 3.15pm. (Please drop off and collect from the Garden Gate)

Nursery pupils who go home with a Secondary sibling at The Grange Academy will leave at 2.35pm.

Nursery pupils with a sibling in the Primary phase will leave at 2.55pm.

All other Nursery pupils will leave at 3.15pm.

## **Reception – Year 6**

School is open from 8.40am and all pupils must be in school by 8.50am. There will be a 2.35pm finish for pupils who go home with a sibling from the Secondary phase. If pupils have siblings in the Primary phase their finish time will be 2.55pm. All other pupils without siblings will leave 2.45pm.

## **Drop Off Club**

The Drop Off Club will resume on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and will run from 8.20am - 8.40am. Drop Off is designed for working parents or for the few children who have to come to school with a Secondary sibling. Please support us by only using Drop Off if you really need the service. If you require childcare before or after school then Link Club is operating as normal.

## **Break time and Snack**

### **Break time**

Nursery and Reception pupils will have continuous access to outside areas. Snack will be provided as normal and snack money will continue to be collected.

In Years 1-2: Break time is 10.50am-11.05am and children will receive a piece of fruit everyday.

In Years 3-6: Break time is 9.50am-10.05am. You may provide a small healthy snack if you feel your child will need one.

### **Lunchtime**

We will continue to provide a choice of hot and cold meals for pupils. All Infant aged pupils are able to access a free school meal. School meals are available for all pupils and can be paid for using Scopay.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils will have lunch from 11.30am-12.15pm.

In Years 3-6 lunchtime will run from 12.05pm-12.50pm.

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**The Grange Academy**

Latham Avenue, Runcom WA7 5DX

Mr I Critchley - Principal BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

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TRUST

We will be operating a zero waste policy from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. This means we will not be allowing pupils to throw away their uneaten food and will ask them to return it home. There is a lot of food waste and we will encourage pupils to save unwanted food for home time, so you can monitor what they eat during the school day.

Playtime will initially be taken in separate areas of the school yard so that class bubbles do not mix. We will review this as restrictions ease to allow pupils to mix in year groups outside only.

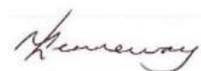
### **Curriculum and Homework**

We are adapting the curriculum to focus on the key concepts that we have identified that your children will need to learn and know. On return, we will assess pupils, re-establish routines and systems and support wellbeing with an enhanced SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) offer. We will begin to work once again on a comprehensive 'Catch Up' programme for ALL pupils. After Easter we may reorganise classes and groups to support our 'Catch Up' plans. Homework will be set as normal. We need to reduce the amount of books and paper that we pass back and forth from school to home. We have fantastic online systems for home learning (SeeSaw/Tapestry) and home reading (MYON) and we will utilise these to keep staff, pupils and family members safe.

We plan to hold online Teacher and Parent Meetings before Easter (last week of term). You will receive information to book a time slot. During this time we will be able to update you on your child's progress and how you can continue to support them this school year.

We are really looking forward to seeing all of the children on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The measures above will allow us to maintain social distancing as much as possible and also enable pupils to ease back into school life safely, quickly and easily.

Yours faithfully



M Kenneway  
Head of Primary Education

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