



Goodyers End Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers

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I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer holiday and are feeling refreshed and ready for the new term to begin. I am very much looking forward to welcoming all the children back to school and hope to get a little bit of normality back into everyone's lives. I understand that you will be feeling a mix of emotions on sending your children back to school but please have confidence that we have put many arrangements into place, in line with the government guidance, to ensure the safety of the children, the staff and the whole school community. We all have our part to play in ensuring we are able to remain open to all children. Further to the previous letter before the summer holidays please see below a reminder of the arrangements in place from Thursday as we welcome all children back to school.

Please ensure you read this letter very carefully as there is a lot of important information that you need to know in order for our plans on reopening to all pupils to be safe and successful.

School will still feel a little bit different from normal, but rest assured all of the new processes and procedures in place are to ensure everyone's safety. There will be many different arrangements in place in different schools, but each school's approach is dependent on the setting and the best interests of our children and families.

Drop off/ Pick up times:

In line with government guidance we are continuing with the staggered drop off and pick up times to ensure there are not too many people congregating on school site at any one time – **at all times please remember to also adhere to social distancing guidelines when arriving to/leaving from school and whilst queuing.** The drop off and pick up system in place currently, has worked incredibly well and has worked because parents have adhered to the precise drop off and pick up times. You will be directed by staff on where to go when you arrive at school but it is a simple entrance/exit queueing system.

	Year Group (Sept 2020)	Drop off	Pick up
Please take note of these times:	Reception** (From Monday 7 th Sept)	08.55**	14.50**
	Years one and two	09.00	14.55
	Years three and four	09.05	15.10
	Years five and six	09.10	15.15

Drop off:

I cannot stress enough that the system will only work if we all play our part by being as punctual as we can – that means **not being early** as well as **not being late**; you will **not** be permitted to join the queue if you are early as other year groups will be arriving for their time slot. The timings are very tight, and this was done on purpose to support working parents who need to get off to work, however if the system doesn't run smoothly due to people not adhering to the times we will have to extend the drop off/collection times.

It is really helpful if you say your goodbyes before you get to the gate, so not to delay the drop off. It would be even more helpful if (after the first few days) you could leave your child (key stage two) walk around the system by themselves. Once you drop them at the entrance gate the system is secure and manned by staff all the way until they reach their teacher, I would certainly hope that key stage two children would be ready to do this after the first few days week. We are requesting that **only one adult** accompanies children to school unless absolutely necessary. Please do not arrive early and wait outside the gate, as this causes congestion for other families trying to get through.

If you have children in multiple groups, please drop off at the earliest child's time slot. For collection, if you have children in multiple groups you will need to collect at the allocated times, this is because of the amount of children leaving at each time slot.



Parents will not be permitted onto school site during drop off and pick up times; should you need to speak with the school office we ask that you ring the office and they will direct you further.

Social Distancing and hygiene:

It is very important that you talk to your child/ren about the importance of social distancing and good hygiene practices. We will continue with our processes in school on regular hand washing, sanitising of surfaces and equipment. Please speak with your child and explain that some things will be different and the way in which school runs will be different too; in this way you can help prepare them for their return. The government advice does not require the wearing of masks. If you choose for your child to wear a mask at school, it is their responsibility.

School Uniform:

All children are expected to wear school uniform. You will be notified in advance of your child's PE day and on that day the children are to come to school in their PE kit. There will be no PE in the first week. Please ensure your child is in the correct PE kit which is black shorts, red t-shirt, black slip-on pumps (indoor), trainers (outdoor) and tracksuit or similar for the colder months.

School bags/pencil cases:

Again to reduce the risk of spreading the virus we ask that you limit items brought into school to essential items only. Children can bring a pencil case (only necessary for key stage two) but it should only contain a minimum number of items and children are responsible in ensuring it is for their use only. **I would highly recommend you label the items.** I would also recommend that the items stay in school, again so you are limiting the cross contamination between home and school.

Lunch:

Your child can either bring a packed lunch to school or you can order a packed lunch from the school kitchen, there will **not** be any hot dinners. We will review this after a period of time, but in the interim we feel this is the most effective way of providing meals at school. Children are not permitted to gather in the school hall to eat their lunch. Children will remain in their assigned bubbles/classes to eat their lunch so as to reduce the risk of mixing with large numbers of children.

Isolation:

If your child displays any of the COVID-19 symptoms they should not attend school and seek to have your child tested. Please keep us informed if your child displays any symptoms.

If any child displays any signs of COVID symptoms whilst at school, they will be placed in isolation and you will be asked to collect your child and their siblings immediately. Until they are collected, staff caring for them in the isolation room will be wearing PPE.

If any child has their symptoms confirmed as COVID-19 then the staff and children in that bubble/class/year group will have to self-isolate for 14 days. You will be formally notified by school.

Holiday quarantine:

If you have been abroad during the holidays we ask that if your holiday destination is on the quarantine list that you ensure you follow the government guidance and isolate for 14 days. If this is the case, please contact the school office so that we can arrange for pupils to receive home learning.

I appreciate that this is a very worrying time and you are being bombarded with lots of information, but I hope that by planning as tightly as we have, you have confidence in your child returning to school. We very much want to get the children back into school and back to some normality. I cannot stress enough how successful the returning of the children in years reception, one and six has been. It has given us confidence in being able to bring all children back, safely. Should you wish to read our comprehensive risk assessment, a copy is available on our school website.

If you have any further questions please email or call the school office.

Yours sincerely



Mrs A Rees
Headteacher