



Head Teacher:
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Dear Parents and Carers

Returning to School in September 2020

Thank you to everyone for all your emails of support during this unprecedented time. The school is incredibly proud to have been able to provide a safe and secure learning environment for those children who have been able to attend during this challenging period.

We are very pleased to hear that lots of children across the whole New Ash Green Community have found our online Learning at Home to be such a great support. I understand children from other schools have also used our home learning resources, which is fantastic. My team has worked incredibly hard to update our website every week with a range of activities, video messages and home learning materials to use, so we are delighted to hear how well this has been received.

We are now getting ready for all children to return to school for the start of Term 1 for the next academic year on **Thursday 3rd September 2020**. The operation of the school has been entirely reviewed to reduce contact between children and staff so to minimise the risk of transmission. Social distancing will also continue to be widely encouraged, where possible.

Dropping off Children in the Morning and Collection at the End of the Day:

We will be continuing the one-way circular system. You will be directed by staff on arrival to drop off and collect your child. Everyone must follow this route.

Children are to be dropped off and collected at the following times:

- **Reception classes (R3 and R4)** will be dropped off at **9.15 am** and collected at **3pm** on Roundwood playground. More information will follow about the first three weeks in Term 1, on Monday 13th July.
- **Year 1 (R5 and R6)** and **Year 2 classes (R1 and R2)** will be dropped off at **9.05 am** and collected at **3.10pm** on Roundwood playground.
- **Year 3 (B3 and B4)** and **Year 4 classes (B1 and B2)** will be dropped off at **8.55am** and collected at **3.20pm** on Hemstalls playground.
- **Year 5 (H3 and H4)** and **Year 6 classes (H1 and H2)** will be dropped off at **8.45 am** and collected at **3.30pm** on Hemstalls playground.

Please arrive on time and queue outside the school along by the Doctor's surgery. Do not enter the school until you are called. We will not be able to facilitate any early or late drop offs and collections.

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You will not be able to visit the main reception area, as this will be closed. Please contact the school via telephone or email if you wish to contact your child's class teacher. You can also use your child's contact book to write a message to your child's teacher. Mrs Church, Family Liaison Officer, will be available when you drop off and collect your child.

Written permission will be required from Parents and Carers of children in Years 5 and 6 who wish to walk to and from school from Monday 7th September onwards. For Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September, we would request that these children are dropped off and collected from school by an adult. We are also currently reviewing the use of mobile phones and will confirm these arrangements at the beginning of Term 1.

Please also remember to observe social distancing as stipulated by the markings on the ground.

Daily Systems:

- Each child **must** attend school in their new class for the next academic year. This is compulsory.
- **All children are to wear school uniform** from the beginning of Term 1.
- Children will be having PE once a week and on that day **are to come to school wearing their PE Kit ready for their lesson**. Children will stay in their PE Kit for the remainder of the day. Labels will go home with the children to remind them the day before.
- No equipment or any extra items will need to be brought in from home.
- **Children are permitted to bring in their own bags** to carry their reading book, contact book, lunch box (if required) and water bottle.
- **A water bottle** for your child is **essential** and **MUST be clearly labelled**.
- Children will be bringing reading books and contact books as usual, from the start of term.
- Hot meals will be available as usual and will be charged through Principals Catering at a cost of £2.25 per child, per day. If you wish your child to bring a packed lunch, then please ensure this is also clearly marked with their name. No charge is required for those children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 under the Universal Programme, however, if your child is usually entitled to a Free School Meal (irrespective of which year they are in), then this will continue in place of any voucher you may have been receiving.
- Timings for lunch and playtimes have been adjusted to ensure the correct amount of learning time for each year group. There will be no lost learning time.
- Social distancing will be widely encouraged, wherever possible.
- **There will be no assemblies taking place**. Certificates will be handed out in class to those children who have achieved a Headteacher's Award. We will write to you the week before to notify you that your child will receive this.

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Frequent Enhanced Cleaning is Crucial

- The school will have another deep clean before we open again in the autumn and each classroom will continue to be cleaned daily.
- Equipment, tables, chairs and toilets will continue to be cleaned three times a day during school times. Soft furnishings will continue to be removed from classrooms.
- We encourage regular bathing and washing of the children at home, as this reduces the risk of transmission.
- All children and staff will be washing their hands at least five times a day at the following intervals:
 - on arrival when coming into school.
 - after break time.
 - before lunch.
 - after lunch.
 - before home time.

We are aware that some children may feel anxious about returning to school. If you feel that your child requires emotional support, please do let your teacher know via email on: HW@new-ash.kent.sch.uk, quoting the full name of your child and their class teacher in the subject heading. Our website will also be updated over the summer with videos to prepare you and your child for these new procedures.

Please do encourage your child to relax over the summer. We do not expect any learning at home over this period as we want all the children to be able to enjoy their break, so they are ready and alert to return in the autumn.

We are working hard to ensure your child enjoys a safe and happy learning environment and look forward to seeing their return in September.

Yours faithfully



Mrs C.A Cain
Headteacher