



3 March 2021

Dear parents,

With our full reopening approaching next Monday, I wanted to write to you with a few updates and reminders. I'm pleased to report daily cases of Covid dropping locally to as low as 14 per day, so we have good reason to really look forward to everyone being back in school next week. At the same time, to support the Government's wider reopening timeline, it is vital we all continue to play our part in and out of school. Please take the time to read the reminders below to help make our full reopening as successful as possible:

## Testing

The government has updated guidance to enable parents to request their own home testing kits. This is completely voluntary, but I am sure many parents would like to take up this offer. Please follow the link below for more details:

[www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff)

## Drop Off and Pick Up

This part of the day poses the biggest challenge in terms of social distancing. Please can we stick to the following expectations:

- Only 1 parent to drop off and pick up at a time.
- Parents are requested to wear face coverings on site.
- Parents to remain at least 2m, outside the marked boxes when talking to staff.
- To follow one way systems and markings at all time and treating others with kindness and respect.
- Children must arrive and leave by your side at all times.
- Play equipment is not available for use.
- Please avoid using the car park where possible.

For this part of the day to work safely, please take your time. I would suggest taking the longer route to drop off (along the school drive towards Year 2) is by far the safest route as the wider drive will help prevent a bottleneck at the gates opposite the disabled parking spaces. **If you don't mind a few extra steps, then please take this longer route to help keep our site safe.** If you do find yourself in a busy location, please take your time and maintain social distancing.

To help reduce congestion, **please can Year 6 parents drop off and pick up from the front playground by reception.**



## **Uniform**

Please make sure your children are dressed smartly in their school uniform. We will continue to permit PE kit on PE days, details of which days are PE will be provided on the weekly Year Team Sways.

On sunny days, please apply an all day sun cream to your child before school. They may also bring a labelled bottle into school to top up during the day, but must be able to apply this themselves.

## **Face Coverings**

The advice remains that children should not wear masks in class. If you have any concerns regarding this please get in touch.

## **Bubbles**

Your child will continue to be in their class bubble throughout the day. Please do all you can to maintain the integrity of these bubbles by avoiding mixing outside of school where possible.

## **Front Office**

Our front office will remain closed to public access, including our toilets. Please contact the school via phone or email.

## **Classrooms**

For the time being, our classrooms will remain organised in rows facing the front. This worked surprisingly well last term. Every child will have an identified desk, chair, pencil case and basket to keep items inside. EYFS is the only year group where classrooms run more normally due to their age.

## **Covid Symptoms or Positive Tests**

It is vital that parents continue to adopt a cautious approach to covid symptoms by keeping children home if the child, or any member of the household, displays symptoms. Should this be the case the household need to organise a test and self-isolate until the result is known, or 10 days pass. In this situation, if the child is well then we will offer access to lessons via Teams.

If your child becomes unwell we will take them to the first aid room and supervise them until an adult is able to collect. Your forward planning to make sure an adult is always accessible over the phone in this situation is much appreciated.

Please continue to keep us updated regarding any covid symptoms or test results via:

[covid@avonwoodprimaryschool.org.uk](mailto:covid@avonwoodprimaryschool.org.uk)



## Curriculum

Our primary focus over the next few weeks is the health and well-being of your children. Whilst this lockdown was shorter, for many families, children and staff this felt much harder. We therefore need to make sure everyone gets back into the routine of school and enjoys a bit of much needed normality. To assist with this we have written a specific well-being curriculum all around "Brighter Futures Ahead".

Alongside this we will be working hard to assess every child to better understand any knowledge gaps or support required. This will then enable the teachers to use precision teaching strategies to address any gaps, in a similar fashion to our September return.

I have no doubt that many families and staff are feeling mixed emotions about the reopening of schools. Some will be delighted while others will be feeling anxious. If you have any questions then please get in touch or join our coffee afternoon this Thursday at 16:30 by clicking the link below:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_Njc2ZjEwNjMtMWUxYi00ZTEwLWJkMzltM2NjM2E2ZjMxZDNj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%228027efc9-ed2-4ebb-93f5-7e8198438f21%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22f1c59cca-a5b0-4e54-8fe9-ee8ef7337cc5%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_Njc2ZjEwNjMtMWUxYi00ZTEwLWJkMzltM2NjM2E2ZjMxZDNj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%228027efc9-ed2-4ebb-93f5-7e8198438f21%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22f1c59cca-a5b0-4e54-8fe9-ee8ef7337cc5%22%7d)

We are all really looking forward to welcoming everyone back next week and setting the school back on a road to normality. Brighter times are certainly ahead! #TeamAvonwood.

Kind regards,

Mr Jackson  
Head Teacher