

Salisbury Primary School

Salisbury Street
Darlaston,
Walsall
WS10 8BQ

Headteacher: Mrs D. Steen

Deputy Head: Mr S. Forsyth

Telephone: 0121 6674066

E-mail: postbox@salisbury.walsall.sch.uk

Friday 17th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will have heard the government announcement that schools will be open for all pupils' full-time education from September 2020. Our school has been welcoming pupils in different year groups back to school since June. We approached this with great caution, reviewing all the scientific advice to ensure that we could be as safe as possible. This has gone extremely well, as our safety measures and risk assessments were excellent. Thank you to all those parents who sent your children back into school as requested – it has been lovely to see them.

End of Year reports, which have been written to reflect your child's progress up to the start of lockdown, have been emailed to you and you have also received a letter to your child from your child's new teacher to say hello. Guidance allowing, we will arrange a parents' meeting in September.

We are delighted that we can now look forward to seeing all our pupils back in September and we have been busy planning, completing new and detailed risk assessments, and working out exactly what school will look like and feel like when your child returns.

The Government has stated: 'Given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19)'. As you have seen from our class lists, I have employed four extra teachers to allow your children to be kept in the same year group bubbles for the whole day. This will ensure that we reduce contact between different groups of pupils, and keep the stringent cleaning and disinfecting processes we already have in place to ensure that our school is as safe as can be for your child.

In preparation, there are some key points that you need to be aware of to ensure that your child is safe. Please be aware some details may change; we will keep you updated via the school website and our text and email systems. The rules are as follows:

1. You must ensure that if anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, your child does NOT attend school. Any child or staff member who develops symptoms in the school day will be sent home immediately. If anyone in your household, or your child, tests positive for COVID-19 you MUST inform your school.
2. The government has advised walking or cycling to school wherever possible to reduce the use of public transport.

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3. Attendance at school will be compulsory for the vast majority of children. The government has relaxed the rules on attendance during lockdown. However, this will change in September. The government guidance says: 'Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term.'

4. Pupils and staff will not be wearing face coverings in school. The government advice is quite clear that this is not necessary. If face coverings are used on public transport to get to school, they must be removed and safely disposed of or stored before entry to the building.

5. Your child will be expected to follow strict behaviour rules relating to physical contact with other pupils, and keeping their hands clean. Pupils will be expected to wash their hands regularly, and/or use hand sanitiser.

6. If your child has Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), Mrs Watkins will contact you to explain what provision will look like from September.

7. Our school kitchen will reopen in September, and lunches will be available again. Pupils eligible for free school meals will return to having their lunch at school, and will no longer receive lunch vouchers. Free School Meal vouchers for the last week of this term have now been ordered, as have separate vouchers for the Summer holidays. For the first week of school, the kitchen will be providing meals in a bag and these will mainly be delivered to the children in their classrooms. To have a school dinner in KS2 you must pay for these on a Monday for the whole week and it must be for the full week. Due to handling and counting the money, and the kitchen staff needing to order the ingredients for the meals, we are unable to accept this daily. So just to reiterate, if you want a school dinner, it must be for the full week. The menu is as follows:

Thursday 3rd Sept – chicken burger; vegetable burger; potato wedges; salad; jacket potato; and a small cake for dessert.

Friday 4th Sept – Fish fingers; chips; pasta bake; sweetcorn; jacket potato; and a cookie for dessert.

Monday 7th Sept – chicken with pasta; cheese lattice; mini waffles; salad or sweetcorn; jacket potato; and iced sponge for dessert.

Tuesday 8th Sept – meat pizza; veg pizza; garlic bread; sweetcorn; jacket potato; and flapjack for dessert.

Wednesday 9th Sept – chicken wrap; quorn wrap; herby diced potatoes; jacket potato; and shortcake for dessert.

Thursday 10th Sept –meat hot dog; vegetarian hot dog; potato wedges; salad; jacket potato; and a small cake for dessert.

Friday 11th Sept – fish fingers; chips; pasta bake; sweetcorn; jacket potato; and a cookie for dessert.

All meals will have a salad bowl, a fruit bowl and a dessert.

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8. Bagels will continue to be handed out at the start of the school day; these will be handed to your children by members of staff wearing gloves and using tongs, to ensure hygiene rules are being followed.

9. In order to maintain social distancing during social times, the playground and field will be zoned. It will be really important that your child stays within the area that they are told to.

10. It will be more important than ever that your child has their own equipment in school to ensure that this does not need to be shared. Each child will be provided with a set of equipment; please do not send pencil cases into school.

11. On their first days back in school, your children will be informed about which days they will have PE. Until further notice, children will not be allowed to bring PE kits into school to get changed into. This means that on the days your children have PE, they must come to school in PE clothing for the entire day. PE clothing will need to include tracksuit bottoms/leggings/jumper as PE will be held outside as much as possible.

12. Pupils will be expected to wear school uniform. If you are struggling to provide a school uniform, please get in touch with me and I'll try and help you.

13. There will be staggered starts and endings to the school day. Here are the start and finish time arrangements:

Nursery – 8:40 – 11:40 (drop off and collection onto EYFS playground, using the black gate onto Station Street).

Reception – 8:50 – 3:10 (drop off and collection onto EYFS playground, using the black gate onto Station Street).

Year 1 – 8:50 – 3:10 (drop off and collection onto main playground as normal).

Year 2 – 8:40 – 3:00 (drop off and collection onto main playground as normal).

Year 3 – 8:50 – 3:10 (drop off and collection onto main playground as normal).

Year 4 – 8:40 – 3:00 (drop off and collection onto main playground as normal).

Year 5 – 8:50 – 3:10 (drop off and collection onto EYFS playground, using the black gate onto station street, and children enter into the Hub for their new classrooms).

Year 6 – 8:40 – 3:00 (drop off and collection onto EYFS playground, using the black gate onto station street, and children enter into the Hub – then enter the main school building to reach their classrooms).

14. It is important that only one parent/carer comes to school to drop off and collect your child. Please do not loiter outside the school ground before/after the school day in order to ensure that the drop off and collection processes happen as efficiently and quickly as possible, and also to reduce risk to

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yourself and others. Please also only attend school at the times specified above. We can only accept children from these year groups at these times so if you have children in more than one year group, you will be asked to return to the site to drop off or collect them.

15. Unfortunately we are currently unable to offer after school clubs, offsite visits (trips), whole-school assemblies and PTA events. We will keep you informed throughout the year if we are able to offer these again.

16. Unfortunately we are unable to accept any learning packs back into school. We ask that any work children have completed during the school closure remains at home.

17. Some parents were contacted about school purchasing Chromebooks/laptops so your child can access online learning. This has been put on hold since schools were announced to be reopening, and we will re-look at this in September if necessary.

18. We will be updating the school's risk assessment in August to reflect any changes in Government guidance. This will be placed on our website and you will be notified once this is available.

Some of you and your children will be anxious about returning in September, after some months out of school. Please be reassured that we are taking exceptional measures to make our schools as safe as can be. We will be providing additional emotional and wellbeing support for all pupils, and will also be providing additional opportunities to support learning where this is required. Although very many of our pupils have worked hard using our learning packs and remote learning resources provided by our dedicated teachers, we are fully aware that learning has been lost. We are all determined that your sons and daughters will absolutely not be 'a lost generation' and we're adapting our curriculum to make sure that they get the learning and knowledge that they need to achieve success in the future. As I've mentioned previously, we are now teaching your children in classes (bubbles) of 23 maximum – this is very rare but the Governors and I have made sure that the school budget this year is being spent where it is needed most.

Your children deserve a great, and safe education – we will not let them down.

See you in September and if you need me, school maybe closed but I never do! My school mobile number is 07908086664.

Take care,

*Deborah Steen
Head teacher*



We're working
towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts
Council England

