



20th November 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

- We are trying to start the learning earlier in the classrooms and so have now changed the start times for Reception, Year 2 and Year 3. All of the children are coming into school very well so we are now asking that Reception, Year 2 and Year 3 children come in 5 minutes earlier. It will be really important for all the children to arrive at school on time so we do not have congestion at the gates. These new times will start on Monday 23rd November.

YEAR GROUP	START TIME	FINISH TIME
Reception	9.20am	3.00pm
Year 1	9.00am	3.10pm
Year 2	9.10am	3.20pm
Year 3	9.10am	3.20pm
Year 4	9.00am	3.30pm
Year 5	8.45am	3.30pm
Year 6	8.45am	3.30pm

- Please do not arrive more than 5 minutes before your drop off or pick up time.
- Please be punctual
- Please leave the site immediately. Do not wait to watch your child walk across the playground in the morning - there are staff outside to help them but they all know where to go and all go straight into class. This is particularly important now as there is less time between groups of children coming into school and we still need to ensure that there is no congestion at the gate and along the paths onto and off the site,
- **Only one parent/ adult** per family will be permitted onto the site. If older siblings are coming to collect, they should not bring other friends onto the school site with them.
- If you have more than one child, please drop them all off in the morning with the **earliest child** and pick up with the **youngest child**. We are trying to encourage children in Year 5 and Year 6 to stay until 3.30pm even if they have younger siblings.

- We are now trying to encourage as many children as possible to have a school meal at lunchtime rather than bringing in a packed lunch from home. We are finding that packed lunch boxes and bags are taking up much needed space in the classrooms at the moment. We are also trying to reduce the number of things children bring in from home as an additional safety measure.

To support this, we have asked the company that provides our school meals - Chartwells - to provide a sandwich option as an additional offer on the menu each day. The children will continue to be able to choose from the main meal options which always include a Halal option and a vegetarian option each day along with vegetables, salad, a desert or fruit. The children who are having a school meal at the moment seem to be enjoying them and I would encourage all children to try them - even if only a few times each week.

- Remember that if your child does have Covid-19 symptoms they should self-isolate for 10 days and the other members of your household should isolate for 14 days.
- It is very important that you inform us if your child has any of the covid-19 symptoms and will be self-isolating.

The symptoms to particularly look out for are:

- a high temperature,
- a new continuous cough,
- loss of sense of taste or smell

If we ask you to collect your child from school because they have symptoms:

- they should isolate for 10 days.
- You should arrange a test for your child either by ordering a home test kit or by booking an appointment and going to a testing centre.
- If the result of the test is negative and you are happy to share the result with us, your child can come back to school if they are well enough to do so.
- If you do not feel able to share the result with us it is important that your child completes the self-isolation for 10 days and does not return before. This is to keep the rest of the school community safe and reduce the risk of spread.

If your child is self-isolating, work will be sent home for them to complete. The Year Lead or your child's teacher will send you a letter with the relevant information and login details for DB Primary.

- Please remember to wear a face covering when you come onto the site. Unless you are exempt from wearing a mask and can show this with the relevant evidence card this is an expectation for all parents and carers coming onto the site.

- Children who come to school wearing a reusable mask should have a small sealable plastic bag to put it in when they take it off. Temporary face coverings should be disposed of in the bin on arrival.
- Please make sure your children have a warm coat in school every day - even if they say they don't need one.
- Please **supervise your children** when you have collected them and keep them with you. The children should not be playing in the conservation area, climbing and playing on the adobe at the far end of the field or on the play structures in the playground. This is very important and ensures their safety.
- **Social distancing is really important** as part of all our efforts to reduce the spread of Covid-19, along with good hygiene and wearing face coverings. Please do not gather in the playground or at the gates to speak with other parents. You should all be adhering to social distancing guidance with staff, children and parents **at all times** including when walking along the paths on the school site.

Covid Restrictions

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

I have attached this link for you to read the guidance on the current national lockdown restrictions.

I would hope that you are all aware of the current expectations with regard to staying at home and not meeting people socially. Section 2 of the guidance relates specifically to meeting people safely and as well as referring to not meeting people socially it also stresses the importance of staying 2 metres apart from people outside your household.

We ask parents not to stay on the site once their children have been dropped off at school to support the guidance. We want to keep everyone as safe as possible by ensuring that you go straight home or to work.

I would recommend that you read the guidance to ensure you do not inadvertently breach the restrictions.

The challenges related to Covid-19 will be with us for some time and I would again like to thank you for your continued understanding, support and cooperation.

Christine Haslam
Headteacher