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Headteacher: Mrs J Exton

Key information for parents about returning to school – to be read in conjunction with the letter from the Rutland Learning Trust available on the school website

Why can more children go to school?



It is good for children's mental wellbeing.



It is good for children to socialise with other children.



School is the best place for them to learn.



To do this we will need to make changes to the school day.

We will be operating a part time phased return for Squirrels (EYFS), Hedgehogs(Y1) and Owls(Y6).

Each of these classes will be split into Group A and Group B. Group A will attend school on a Monday and Tuesday. Group B will attend school on a Thursday and Friday. At this point we cannot tell you which days this will be. When not in school home learning packs are to be followed.

Our school will continue to be open every day providing Childcare for key worker children from all year groups.

Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 will continue to receive home learning packs and teacher support as they have been doing, until we are able to welcome them back to the school site.

Does my child have to come to school ?



If your child is well and in one of the groups asked to attend they should.



There will be no fines if your child does not go to school.

Parents are best placed to make the right decision for their family. If your child is unable to return, we will continue to provide home learning packs.

What about their brothers and sisters?



Only children in the year groups above.



Children in years 2 - 5 need to stay at home

How are you making sure school is safe?

We have a comprehensive risk assessment for the children's return to school, which is available to all parents. We do have to be realistic and I ask you as parents to understand that social distancing in a primary school is very hard. As a staff we will do all we can to keep the children safe and follow guidance. However, the nature of young children and the interactions that they have with each other and we have with them, means they are very likely to be in contact with others whilst in school. What we will do is follow a set of clear guidelines to minimise the risk as much as possible.



We will check for risks before school is open.

The school will be organised into groups of children with a teacher and a teaching assistant that will stay together for the 2 days they are in school. They will have their own spaces and equipment in school that they can use and children will not be allowed to mix.

Everyone will wash their hands on arrival at school, before each lesson, before eating, after toileting, before leaving the school, and when moving from indoors to outdoors and vice versa.



Everyone will wash their hands regularly.

Only having key worker children in on a Wednesday will allow for a thorough cleaning of the school midweek as well as daily thorough cleaning. Surfaces, door handles, sinks, tables will be disinfected at lunchtimes as well.



There will be less children in a room together.

Each group will be less than 15 children. Classes will be with their own class teacher. Squirrels and Hedgehogs will be in their own classrooms and Owls will be in the hall. Children in Childcare will continue to be in Foxes and Rabbits.

Children will be taught about hygiene and keeping safe and encouraged to participate in activities in different ways to avoid being too close together as much as possible.



School will be cleaned regularly.



To do this we will need to make changes to the school day.

We will be implementing a one way system at the entrance for dropping children off and picking them up. Parents will not be allowed into the school building. We will also be staggering the time that we ask you to drop off or pick up. This will allow social distancing to be followed and prevent groups of people forming.

Childcare 9.00am – 3.30pm Please use the main entrance for drop off and collection from Rabbits and Foxes Class.

Squirrels (EYFS) 9.15am – 2.45pm Please use Squirrels external door (as usual), exit out of the other gate.

Hedgehogs (Y1) 9.30am – 3.00pm Please use Hedgehogs external door and then exit out of the other gate.

Owls (Y6) 9.45am – 3.15pm Please use the Owls pod entrance and then exit via the big carpark gates.

We will have signs to show you where to go and staff will be out for the first few days to guide you.

In order to ensure safety of pedestrians in the carpark, staff cars will be unable to enter or exit the carpark between 8.45 and 10.00am or between 2.30 and 3.45pm.

If you have children in two different drop off groups then it is important you follow the one way system when dropping off and collecting your children to ensure social distancing guidelines are followed. If you are dropping off more than one child please come at the later time.



We will change how we serve lunch.

All children will eat lunch with their group. This may be in their classroom or outside together in a designated space. You can send in a packed lunch with your child or book lunches via Parent Pay which will be prepared in the kitchen and delivered to your child at lunchtime.

Uniform

Children must wear clean clothes each day they attend school or Childcare. They do not have to wear school uniform, instead they should wear casual clothes suitable for running around and participating in PE activities as we will be spending as much time as possible outside. (No PE kit should be brought to school) They must also have the appropriate clothing for the weather – rain coats or sun hats will be needed.

Communication

In order to keep everyone safe we will continue to communicate via ClassDojo. We will not be sending paper communications unless necessary. If you wish to contact the office or your child's teacher then please do this via emailing or phoning the office or using Class Dojo.

Illness

If your child presents with any symptoms of COVID19, they must not attend school.



If a child or family member is sick they can not come to school.

Can my child be tested ?



Yes, if your child shows symptoms of Coronavirus they will be eligible to be tested at the nearest test centre.

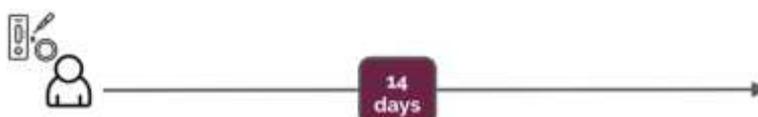
What if there is a case of Coronavirus in school?



The person with symptoms must self isolate for 7 days.



The people they live with must self isolate for 14 days.



If anyone at school tests positive, the whole group must self isolate for 14 days.

Please be aware that this plan for **opening the school is dependent on the five government tests being met**. Should these not be met, we will continue with home learning packs for all children as we currently are.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for the support and positive messages we have received, as well as your patience. We are facing a situation in education that I would never have dreamt of and planning for the continued safety and wellbeing of our children, families and staff continues to be the focus of our work.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Exton
Headteacher

THE REMAINDER OF THIS LETTER ONLY APPLIES TO PARENTS WITH CHILDREN IN SQUIRRLS (EYFS), HEDGEHOGS (Y1), AND OWLS (Y6) or WHO ATTEND CHILDCARE

I am sure you all have very mixed emotions about your child returning to school. Each and every one of us has very different circumstances at home and will have to make our decision based on these. We would love to see your child in school and I hope that the information outlined above has answered some of your questions.

I cannot say whether your child will be in Group A or Group B at the present time as we need to look at the whole school picture. We will ensure that siblings are in the same group and try our best to make sure they are with a friend! Once I know numbers I will let you know which group they will be in next week so you can plan.

Parents who are currently using childcare need to make a choice. Childcare will stay as a separate group and we have to keep groups of children the same, no movement of children is allowed between them. If you use childcare you must choose whether you want to continue to access the childcare group and have up to 5 days of childcare or your child to join their year group for the two days they are in school. I know this will be a hard decision, but we have to minimise the risk in school and having contained groups of children is one of the most effective ways of doing this.

Please could you email the school office uppinghamoffice@rltschools.com by **12 noon on Tuesday 26th May** and let me know your intentions choosing the phrases below that apply to you as this will then enable us to plan more fully.

Yes – I will definitely be sending my child back to school on Monday 1st June if schools are open. If you are unsure then please say yes, you can change your mind.

No – I do not want a place and I understand that my child will continue with home learning.

If your child is in the Childcare group

I wish my child to stay in the childcare group for up to 5 days **OR** I wish my child to be with their year group for 2 days.