



MEON INFANT SCHOOL

Leaping Forward Together



September, 2020

Dear parent / carer,

### **RE: COVID-19 PHASED RETURN TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

I hope you and your family are safe and well. It has been a strange summer, however, I hope you were able to enjoy some of the glorious weather and had the opportunity for some quality family time together.

As we prepare for the new academic year we continue to work closely with our Trust and to follow the Government advice to ensure we give the safest welcome for our pupils.

The Government's guidance for opening to all Year groups from September is key to our plans and we have been working around the clock to reflect this and ensure a safe welcome back for all children in the new academic year.

We are now in a position to be able to share a summary of the principles for opening to all children in September.

In addition to this letter, the information [here](#) will help you understand how the return-to-school based learning will happen and answer questions you may have.

We will be continuing to work to our mission of Child First = Child Safe = Adult Safe. This has guided our planning since lockdown and we are pleased with how well it translated to everyone in our school community.

### **HOW WE ACHIEVE THIS:**

At the heart of our strategy to keep everyone safe will be the Year Group Bubble. Each pupil will be part of a consistent bubble made up of their year group with NO mixing between these bubbles in the school.

Teachers will be, where appropriate, situated as they would have been pre-Covid-19, in a base classroom with limited movement during the school day. The reason we have taken this approach is to enable us to safely deliver as much of the curriculum as possible to our pupils.

I have outlined below the top five considerations and principles that will be in operation in time for all of our pupils returning.

### **1. MANAGING SICKNESS AND REPORTING**

Please remember that you must not send your child to school if they are unwell or displaying any symptoms of Covid-19.

- New continuous cough.
- High temperature.
- Loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

We are going beyond the Government advice regarding Track & Trace to ensure the highest safety for our community. Therefore, any member of our school community that is displaying symptoms **must** self-isolate and be tested.

In the event of a positive test result, we will inform Public Health England (PHE) and follow their advice.



### 2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE START OF TERM

We will provide a full time education provision for all children five days a week. The Government expect all children to return in September and we have planned carefully to ensure that we are able to welcome them all back safely.

To support our children and families to return to school we are operating a staggered return to start the new academic year. These Year group bubbles will return on the following days:

3 <sup>rd</sup> September, 2020	11 <sup>th</sup> September, 2020
Year 1 Year 2	Year R



### 3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SCHOOL DAY

To keep the pupils day as uninterrupted and smooth-running as possible we have implemented a new approach to the school days.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE: To support social distancing, pupils must enter and leave the school grounds through the entry / exit points outlined below:

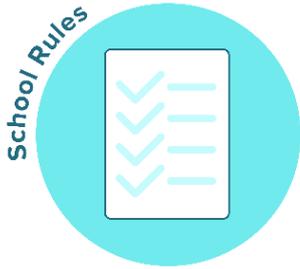
Year Team	Entry / Exit point	Time if applicable Drop off/Collect
Orange/Purple	Shelford Road/Crofton Road	9.00 a.m./ 3.00 p.m.
Yellow	Shelford Road/ Crofton Road	8.40 a.m./ 3.10 p.m.
Green	Shelford Road/Crofton Road	8.50 a.m./ 3.20 p.m.
Red	Shelford Road/Crofton Road	8.40 a.m./ 3.10 p.m.
Blue	Shelford Road/Crofton Road	8.50 a.m./ 3.20 p.m.

At the start of the school day children will be greeted by teacher in the playground and taken to their classroom.

LARGE GATHERINGS: There will be no whole school assemblies taking place throughout the Autumn Term to ensure safety.

BREAK/LUNCHTIMES: Break and lunchtimes will be staggered so that the Year Group Bubbles do not mix. We will be offering a hot meal option as usual, alternatively please provide your child with a healthy packed lunch which should be brought in a plastic bag which can be thrown away at the end of lunchtime unless you can ensure that their lunchbox will be thoroughly cleaned each evening.

FACE COVERINGS: In line with government advice children under 12 do not need to wear a face covering.



#### 4. SCHOOL RULES

We expect our pupils to return in full school uniform. Wearing the correct uniform is important to our identity, and school community and we recognise the importance of establishing our school as a family of learners together and uniform is integral to this.

All normal school rules will apply as well as additional expectations around behaviour in corridors and the maintenance of social distancing – these are shown on additional signage throughout the school. If pupils choose to ignore these expectations then the school will apply the normal range of

sanctions.



#### 5. SAFETY AND CLEANING

Ensuring that our school is kept clean is a key part of our plan. This means regular cleaning of all shared spaces including classrooms, corridors, and toilets.

Hand washing will be the principle means of securing hand hygiene and will be easily accessible throughout school.

As a result of these measures we believe we will be able to provide a safe learning environment for your children and we look forward to welcoming them all back in September.

#### FINAL NOTE...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our children, parents/carers, staff and governors for their support over the last term and indeed, since the pandemic impacted on our usual ways of teaching and learning.

Together we have overcome some great challenges and we are proud of what we have achieved. Should there be any further changes to the Government guidance before we return, or during the new academic year we will respond as fast and as best we can.

However in the meantime, I would like to thank you again and I hope you have found this update useful. Further information will be published on the school site as and when it occurs.

I am sure you will agree that for the children's wellbeing they need to be at school mixing with their peers and feeling happy and part of the school community. Therefore I hope I can rely on you to work with us by ensuring your child attends regularly.

If you have any fears or anxieties about your child's return please contact the school by telephone or email and we will, hopefully, be able to talk to you and resolve some of your concerns.

I thank you for your continued support during these challenging times.

Kind Regards,

Lynda Daish