



Dear Parents and Carers,

Plans for September

We have been working hard to put together our plans for September based on the government guidance that came out at the end of last week. The overarching principle in the guidance is to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff, combined with an emphasis on hygiene. Many of the measures that we have in place now will continue into September, so there will not be too many changes to what you have already been used to.

Arrival/pick up times

- We will still be using the one way system. Enter through the main gate and then continue across the playground and out through the Reception play area.
- We have changed the staggered starts to maximise teaching and learning time and to try and make it easier for those children who have siblings at the Juniors. Three classes will arrive at 8.40am and three classes will arrive at 8.50am. This will mean that there are more parents on site at one time and we hope that you will adhere to social distancing. **Please do not come early to school to wait on the playground.** We would like you to arrive at the correct time, the children will go straight into school as they do at the moment and parents exit the site immediately. Please do not stay on the playground talking to other parents, it's really important that we clear the site quickly for the next group of people.
- Teachers will not be on the playground in the mornings so messages can be emailed/rung through to the office.
- At the end of the day, please arrive at your collection time, collect your child and exit the site immediately.

Class	Start time	Collection time	Door
Maple	8.40am	3.10pm	Maple outside door
Willow	8.50am	3.20pm	Willow outside door
Cedar	8.40am	3.10pm	Year 1 door
Beech	8.50am	3.20pm	Year 1 door
Oak	8.40am	3.10pm	Year 2 ramp door
Sycamore	8.50am	3.20pm	Year 2 ramp door

Uniform/bags etc.

- It is still recommended that children limit the amount they bring into school. A water bottle, lunchbox, PE kit, RMI book bag (no rucksacks please), reading books are all permitted. Please do not send in any toys from home, or attach lots of keyrings to the book bags.
- The guidance advises all schools to return to their normal uniform policies. They state that uniforms do not need to be cleaned more often than usual. We will expect all children to be in correct uniform in September, with sensible school shoes. If you are unsure of the uniform expectations they can be found on the school website.
- This year we will not be organising Year 2 hoodies.

The school environment

- You will be aware that we have been using a 'bubble' system in school to limit contact between groups. The guidance advises that from September we have larger bubbles. These can be class sized or year group sized, depending on what is the best for the children's education.
- Reception will operate as a year group bubble, as they need to be able to access their outside space and the different provision that is offered in both classrooms.
- Years 1 and 2 will spend the majority of their time in class bubbles but, after the first few weeks, for the teaching of phonics we will move towards year group bubbles.
- There is recognition in the guidance that children of this age will not be able to socially distance and that there should be a greater emphasis on separating groups of children. As far as possible, we will discourage close contact and in our Year 1 and 2 classrooms the furniture will be set up to minimise face to face contact between children.
- We need to avoid large gatherings such as assemblies, so we will not be able to offer our usual Friday morning celebration assemblies. Within school, we can offer assemblies digitally and broadcast to all the classes at once.

Lunches

- Our kitchen will be able to offer hot lunches from the beginning of September.
- For the first Thurs/Fri and for the week beginning 7th September, we will be offering the main meal/vegetarian option only (no jacket potatoes/no school packed lunches). You may send your own packed lunch if you prefer.
- From the week beginning 14th September, we hope to resume offering choices. We will be changing to an online booking system for menu choices which will be much more efficient than using paper (and better for the environment).
- Our Reception bubble will have their meals in the hall, but all other year groups will be served their food in their classrooms. Each class bubble will have their own midday supervisor who will be with them every day.

Cleaning/hygiene

- We will continue to have regular handwashing on arrival and throughout the day. There is sanitiser around school and in the classrooms.
- We will continue to have additional cleaning, during the school day, of the toilets, communal areas and high traffic areas.

Attendance

- You will have heard on the news that from September attendance at school will be mandatory. This means that, from this point on, the usual rules on attendance and lateness apply. Our normal attendance policy will be adhered to.

Illness

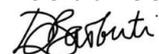
- If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss or change in their normal sense of taste or smell they must not come to school, or if are at school will be sent home and advised to follow the 'Stay at Home' guidance.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>
- If someone has attended school and has tested positive for coronavirus, swift action will be taken. The local health protection team will be contacted and they will carry out a rapid assessment to confirm who has been in close contact during the period they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate for 14 days. The health protection team will provide definitive advice on who must be sent home.

Office

- The office will still operate largely through phone calls and emails. Please only come to the hatch in an emergency.

I hope this answers any questions you may have. If you have further queries please email office@rmischool.co.uk.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Barbuti
Head of School