

TOGETHER



THE ACRE HALL NEWSLETTER

Friday 28th August 2020

Website: www.acrehall.trafford.sch.uk

Twitter: @AcreHall

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Phone: 0161 748 4356 - our school office is manned from 8.15am to 3.45 pm—Monday to Friday

We are looking forward to seeing you again!

We are delighted that Acre Hall will re open , full time, for all our pupils in y1 to y6 from Thursday 3rd September. Pupils in our Nursery class will have individual induction appointments with Mrs Jones on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September ,(if you have not already booked an appointment please ring school on Tuesday afternoon or send an email to our office - email address above— to do so), followed by transition sessions gradually building up to spend more time in school over the following week. Our Reception Class pupils will start their transition visits on Thursday 3rd September and continue with these on Friday 4th and also the following week. Details of timings etc for the transition visits were sent out before the holiday. Please contact us if you require this information to be resent.

Uniform

All pupils will be required to wear school uniform when school opens. Summer uniform may be worn until October half term - please see <https://www.acrehall.trafford.sch.uk/for-parents/school-uniform/> for the full uniform list. We understand that parent may wish to have more spare uniform during the pandemic so they can ensure they have enough items for children to wear a fresh set of uniform each day (the DFE guidance says that uniform does not need to be washed any more than usual). In order to reduce expense for parents we will allow plain navy cardigans and jumpers to be worn if needed . The banded stripe versions remain the official uniform but we feel it is only fair to give some flexibility at this time.

Pupils will take part in PE lesson starting from Monday 7th September and will require a PE kit to be in school from then. Pupils will bring their PE kit home for laundering after their last PE lesson of the week. Please ensure that kits are returned for the following week. PE will take place outside whenever possible. Parents may wish to include a navy blue tracksuit in their child's PE kit although pupils will be allowed to wear school jumpers/cardigans for warmth .

Pupils can bring a rucksack or bag to school if needed but should try to limit items brought to school to absolute essentials only. Lunchboxes can be brought in but should be thoroughly cleaned at home each day. DFE guidance explains that plastic boxes are preferable as they are easier to clean than fabric ones.

Clubs

There will be no after school clubs until further notice however 'After Acres' child care is operating from the start of term. Please contact Jo Stretton on 07902205409 for further details.

Breakfast club will be open as normal (8am start) and the cost remains at £2 per session—paid in advance via Parent Pay. If your child receives free school meals, breakfast club is free of charge.

Attendance

School attendance will be mandatory again from the beginning of the Autumn term. Pupil absence should be recorded in the usual way, by telephoning the school office on the morning of absence. If your child is unwell for any reason, then please keep them at home. If they show any Covid symptoms then you should not send them to school and arrange a test as soon as possible. If they become unwell at school with Covid symptoms then we will supervise them in a designated room until they can be collected and tested as soon as possible. Please ensure we have your up to date contact details.

Infection Control Measures

Over the holiday we have worked hard to prepare for the start of term and the following precautions will be in place ;

- Foot operated sanitising stations in all classrooms, play areas, sports hall and dining room (using special Purus Bio 360 Halal certified sanitiser which has virus killing properties but is kinder to skin than alcohol gels). These will be refilled as needed and children will sanitise on arrival in their classrooms, before leaving school, before and after eating, after outside break , after PE lessons and after coughing or sneezing.
- Special anti—viral door pads in place on corridor fire doors and reception area entry doors—these kill 99.99% of bacteria and are manufactured with Biomaster silver antimicrobial – designed to provide effective and lasting antimicrobial protection.
- Class bubbles set up so that children restrict the number of contacts they have on a daily basis (apart from our small class children who may already travel together on school transport and so will form a bubble with the other small classes). Class bubbles will be separated from other classes by coned off areas at playtimes. As there are more children in KS2 , playtimes will be staggered to allow more space between groups.
- Reception, Y1 and Y2 children and all our small class pupils will eat in the dining room but with separation between each class and rearranged furniture to ensure pupils can eat without facing others. KS2 pupils will eat lunch in their classrooms with pupils who have a school dinner choosing their meals on arrival— sandwiches or a hot meal option—which will be ‘boxed up’ and brought to the classroom at lunchtime.
- Classrooms for KS2 have been rearranged so that most of the time the pupils will face forwards rather than each other. This is not possible for younger children who move around classrooms more as part of continuous provision activities.
- Pupils from y2 upwards will have their own pencil, ruler, rubber etc which will be kept in their own plastic wallet and just for single person use. Younger pupils will have a pencil pot for their table which will be regularly sanitised. Please do not send pencil cases in to school with your child. Any shared resources will be regularly sanitised.
- Additional cleaning hours are in place so that toilets and ‘high contact areas’ such as classroom door handles , banister rails etc will be cleaned twice a day.

Class	Doors Open	Registration – children must be in class for this time	Finish Time	Entry/Exit Point
Nursery – Mrs Jones	8.40am	8.45am	3.20pm	Classroom door
Reception – Mrs Moore	8.40am	8.45am	3.20pm	Classroom door
Reception/Y1 – Miss Breslin	8.40am	8.45am	3.20pm	Classroom door
Y1 - Miss Forlani	8.45am	8.50am	3.25pm	Classroom door
Y2 - Mr Brierley	8.45am	8.50am	3.25pm	Classroom door
All Small Classes	8.40am	8.45am	3.20pm	Classroom door
Y3, Y4 and Y4/5 – Mrs Kan, Mrs Edwards and Mr Stevenson	8.45am	8.50am	3.25pm	Fire doors at the end of building – rear of school
Y5 and Y6 – Miss Atherton and Miss Thake	8.50am	8.55am	3.30pm	KS2 playground door

- Staggered start and finish times will reduce the number of adults and children on the grounds at one time – see above

Infection Control Measures (Ctd)

- Foot operated ‘tissue bins’ in all classrooms etc so that used tissues can be hygienically disposed of—bins will be emptied at the end of each day and there are signs to remind children of the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ message.
- Signage and posters all around school and school grounds to give public health messages and information e.g. coronavirus symptoms, how to get tested and reminders to maintain social distancing.
- Additional staff rooms set up and designated for set staff groups so that there is less risk of any possible infection transfer.
- A one way system will be in operation around the grounds—signage will direct parents/children—staff will help. System as follows ;

Gate entrance from Woodsend Crescent Road leading to the front of the building (old nursery path) will be the way in and the way out will be the gate next to the staff car park on Woodsend Crescent Road. The main front drive can also be used as a way in (keeping to the RHS) This path can be used for breakfast club and EYFS. If coming to breakfast club you may exit by keeping to the LHS of the front path . The EYFS play area will also be part of the one way system; enter by the school office gate and leave via the gate near Miss Breslin’s classroom and walk round to the exit gate by the staff car park. This one way system is to avoid pupils and parents having to cross each other at gateways.

- Foot operated designated disposable mask collection bins by the gate entrance on Woodsend Crescent Road and the EYFS gate on the front path so that any person using public transport can dispose of mask safely. We ask that parents store any fabric masks after their journey so that they can be washed and reused.
- Guidance from Trafford Public Health and engagement with NHS Test and Trace. In the event of any positive cases of coronavirus in school parents will be informed. School have provided out of hours contact numbers to Trafford so that they can alert us at the earliest opportunity and we can act swiftly to contain any possible infections.

Masks

Government guidance is that primary school pupils should not wear masks. We understand that many children do wear them for short periods when out shopping etc (although they are not compulsory in shops etc for under 11's) but feel that pupils would find it difficult to manage them all day. Strict hygiene measures are needed to ensure masks do not actually become a hygiene hazard for others. Therefore we do not expect children to be wearing masks in school. If you have any concern about this and feel you would like to discuss this further, please contact us.

Staff may wear visors, or masks if visors are not suitable, if working close to a child for 15 minutes or more as per government guidance on social distancing. Staff will be given training in using these safely and hygienically.

Individual Sanitiser Bottles

Pupils are allowed to bring in a small bottle of sanitiser for their own use if it is named and they can be responsible for it. However there are 7 wall mounted sanitising stations on the corridors along with foot operated sanitising stations in each classroom, the dining room , on the playgrounds and in the sports hall. Sanitiser is available in every place children will be so parents can be assured that children do not need a personal supply.

Curriculum

Our focus at the start of term is around pupil well being ; we all know how challenging the school closure period has been for our pupils and their families. We want to welcome everyone back and establish the routines of school as soon as possible. There will be ‘circle time’ and PSHCE work to help children manage the return to school and deal with any anxieties they may have. We will spend time looking at the areas of reading, writing and maths that children have missed and do our very best to help them catch up. We will incorporate a broader and more usual curriculum as soon as possible.

Seesaw System

Many children (and parents) became very adept at using the Seesaw online system for completing work and uploading photos etc during the school closure period. We need to keep this system 'live' so that if there has to be a further school closure period , or an outbreak which closes school for a time, we could go back to online learning. It is a government requirement for us to have a contingency plan for such an instance. Therefore, we will be using Seesaw for homework activities from September.

School Lunches

A normal school lunch service will resume at the start of September. New menus will be uploaded to our website as soon as possible.

What can you parents do to help?

We have worked hard during the holiday to ensure measures are in place to keep our pupils and their families as safe as possible . We also need to keep our staff safe so that we can keep school open for our pupils. They have missed so much education and they need to be at school. If there is a case of coronavirus we may have to close the school but by keeping to 'bubble' arrangements for our pupils, it may be possible to close only certain classes etc. For these reasons we respectfully ask that parents keep a safe 2M distance from school staff and speak to children about not running up to staff to hug them. We know that this will be difficult and staff would never want to upset a child by moving away but we have to be aware of taking as many precautions as possible until further guidance is received about transmission of the virus between adults and children.

We ask that parents maintain social distance on our school grounds and, wherever possible, just one adult comes to drop off or collect children. This will help us to limit the number of adults on the playgrounds. If parents feel more comfortable by wearing a mask on the playgrounds, please do so. Please don't arrive too early and be sure to leave as soon as possible to avoid big groups gathering on the playgrounds.

Please ring or email the school office if you have any queries or would like an appointment . You can come to the main reception desk in an emergency or if collecting a child early etc but we are trying to restrict the number of visitors in school. If you need to come in to the reception area , please maintain social distancing.

Guidance

The links below show the latest government guidance for parents. It contains important information about how to book a test; what to do if you need to self—isolate and how schools will manage the new term. We encourage you to read it.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

And finally

This time last year no one could have predicted the school closures and national lockdown. There may still be challenges ahead but the return to school signals the start of a more normal time for everyone. We send our very best wishes to all our 'Acre Hall' family and remember those who have lost loved ones during the pandemic.