

Andover Way
Middlesbrough
TS8 9HL

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www.viewleyhillacademy.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Malbon



INFORMATION REGARDING THE REOPENING OF SCHOOL TO ALL PUPILS SEPTEMBER 2020

KEY DATES: Friday 17th July: school closes for the Summer break

Wednesday 2nd September: school open to children - please read on for details

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Thursday 2nd July, schools received their guidance outlining plans for the safe reopening of schools to all children from September 2020. This guidance can be found [here](#). Please be assured that the return for all children has been carefully considered and planned and has very much been a joint plan drawn up by Mrs Barkley and me, together with the wider leadership team in school. As has been our priority throughout, the safety of your children remains at the forefront of our arrangements. The changes to normal routines are to achieve the safest possible conditions for them and for staff and to enable all children to resume their learning – which is essential.

For our plans to work smoothly, we need every family to play their part and follow the arrangements strictly.

HEALTH EXPECTATIONS

If your child or a member of your household displays symptoms of coronavirus, as Parents/Carers you **MUST** be ready and willing to:

1. [book a test](#) through the NHS [testing and tracing for coronavirus website](#), or order by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and will be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their Parents/Carers if using a home testing kit.
2. provide details of anyone you have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace.
3. [self-isolate](#) if you have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19).

OUR KEY MEASURES

The guidance makes it clear that it is safe to bring all children back to school because of the reduced occurrence of the virus in the community. Our key measures to promote safety are **hygiene** and **reducing the amount of people children and adults spend time with during the day**. This will then help in the event of any track and trace measures that we need to implement. These measures go alongside our continued commitment to supporting appropriate social distancing where possible around the school.

Notable Changes:

- We are extending the start and finish times of the day to help keep groups separate and support social distancing.
- Children will be taught in whole class groups and will not mix with other groups.

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- Staff can and will move between classes where necessary to support children and learning.
- Playtimes will be staggered or playgrounds will be separated into designated areas so that classes do not mix.
- All children will need a packed lunch. We hope to start hot meals again soon. You may order and pay for a packed lunch as you would a school meal.
- Lunchtimes are staggered and children will eat in their class groups in our three halls.
- Children will wash their hands regularly throughout the day to support good hand hygiene.

WHAT IS EXPECTED?

- **Attendance** is compulsory for all school age pupils from September 2020. This means that the usual rules on school attendance will apply including school following up on any absence and making referrals to the Attendance Officer or Local Authority if improvements cannot be achieved.
- **Uniform** must be worn.
- **PE Kits** are needed. Indoor kits as usual – red shorts/white t-shirts. We also need children to have an outdoor kit as we aim to have more outdoor lessons in line with government advice. Please provide your child with joggers, sweatshirt and suitable footwear that can remain in school.
- **Water Bottles** will not be issued just yet. We will continue to provide disposable cups for drinking water through the day.
- **Book Bags** should be used for bringing reading books from home to school. Children must not bring other items from home (toys/accessories).

SCHOOL ARRIVAL

From September, we are asking parents and carers to leave children from Y1 – Y6 at the pedestrian gates to the school and not enter the school site **unless absolutely necessary**. Members of staff will be on these gates to welcome children, take any messages from you and ensure that your child enters the playground safely. There will be more staff further into the playground to ensure children go through the blue gates safely. Everyone will be expected to follow the social distancing spots around the areas on their way in.

We understand that parents of our youngest children in Nursery and Reception, or those moving up into Year 3, will want to accompany their children, at least initially, and this is fine. Similarly, if you feel your child is particularly anxious, you are welcome to accompany them in for the first few days. Please ring Mrs Moore at school if you have any concerns about this and she will offer some advice and support.

END OF DAY

Class groups will be dismissed at different times from both playgrounds and we hope we have built in enough time to enable you to collect siblings easily. It is essential that you leave the site quickly so that we do not have too many people on site at any time.

All plans will be reviewed during the first week back and feedback will be welcomed.
Please read the following timetable carefully and keep it in a safe place for September.

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- ENTRY and EXIT are via the pedestrian gates either side of the main car park gates. There are two separate gates for entry and exit onto both the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds.
- A one way system in and out of KS1 and KS2 must be observed.
- Arrival is over 20 minutes to increase capacity and reduce pinch points.
- Majority of children will enter the site unaccompanied and will be supervised by staff to support social distancing.
- Dismissal time are different for each key stage.
- Parents will be admitted onto the site via the one way route and must observe social distancing using the spots on the ground.
- Children will be handed over to adults collecting one at a time. PLEASE BE PATIENT. It is vital staff are not hurried or distracted during this process to ensure the safety of all children.

IMPORTANT

- **Children in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6, who have permission to walk home alone, will be dismissed at 2:50pm, before the rest of KS2.**

Class	Teacher	Arrival	Dismissal
Morning Nursery	Mrs Dowson	8:30am – 8-50am	11:15am
Afternoon Nursery	Mrs Dowson	12:30pm – via Sure Start Pathway	3:00pm
Reception	Mrs Smith Mrs Jukes	8:30am – 8-50am	1:30pm 2 nd – 10 th September 2:30pm from 14 th September
Year 1	Miss Sheard	8:30am – 8-50am	2:45pm – 3:00pm
Year 1/2	Mrs Gardiner	8:30am – 8-50am	
Year 2	Miss Shadforth	8:30am – 8-50am	
Year 3	Mrs Lockey	8:30am – 8-50am	2:50pm – children who walk home unaccompanied (Y4, Y5 & Y6) 3:00pm – 3:15pm
Year 3/4	Miss Glindon	8:30am – 8-50am	
Year 4	Miss McCabe	8:30am – 8-50am	
Year 5/6	Miss Bailey	8:30am – 8-50am	
Year 5/6	Mrs Clayton	8:30am – 8-50am	
Year 5/6	Mrs Scaife	8:30am – 8-50am	

If you have any queries about these arrangements or would appreciate some further explanation, please do not hesitate to contact school and a member of the leadership team will get back to you.

Kind regards,

Mrs H Malbon & Mrs K Barkley
Headteacher Headteacher Designate

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