

# Ormesby Village Infant School

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Monday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2021

Dear Parents

As you know, schools are set to open again to all pupils from next Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, and we are all so looking forward to welcoming all of you back! Thank you so much for your hard work in supporting your children's learning at home. We appreciate that you may still be understandably anxious about keeping yourselves and your families safe. Currently government and LA guidance to primary schools remains largely unchanged in terms of how we should operate to minimise the risks of transmission and we want to reassure you and remind you, again, of the most important of these which are as follows:-

- We keep rigorous attendance registers and details of all attendances and absences, including those relating to Covid. This means we ensure that pupils/staff do not attend for the required isolation periods if they have symptoms of Covid/have Covid.
- We always seek advice from the DfE/LA when informed of a suspected/confirmed Covid case so that we can act promptly if pupils/staff need to isolate. We will always inform you of a positive case of a pupil or staff member, even if no other pupils/staff need to isolate. Please note that the isolation period is still 10 days, not fourteen as previously. Staff who work in school now test themselves twice a week as per government guidance.
- We record details of all visitors/contractors to the school as part of Track and Trace.
- Start/finish times are staggered to reduce footfall into the site and congestion in cloakrooms and corridors. **Please stick to your times!** Parents are asked to make an appointment if they need to speak to a staff member.
- Pupils are taught in bubbles across YR/Y1 and Y1/2. They remain in class bubbles for playtimes and lunchtimes. Play equipment is allocated for each class.
- Pupils and staff wash/sanitise their hands frequently during the day. Pupils have their own writing resources. Any shared resources – eg computers/laptops/learning resources - are sanitised between any shared use and additional cleaning regimes are in place before, during and after the school day. Reading books are quarantined for 72 hours between use. Additional cleaning takes place before, during and after the school day.
- **We expect you to wear a mask – unless you are exempt - whenever you enter the school site to drop off/collect children or for any other reason. Adults in school will continue to wear masks when in corridors/staffrooms/cloakrooms etc.**



### Important reminders

- **Staggered start/finish times will revert to how they were in the Autumn term – 8.45 am/3.00pm – Mrs Vaughan’s class/Mrs Bunker/Mrs Bird’s class - 9.00am/3.15pm – Mrs McNulty’s class/Mrs Allen’s class.**
- **School uniform is to be worn by all pupils from 8<sup>th</sup> March, with note taken of the bullet point below.**
- It is very important that classrooms and other teaching areas continue to remain well ventilated throughout the school day and staff are vigilant in ensuring this is the case. We are concerned this can make the building cold, even though we follow guidance and open more doors and windows during breaks and lunchtime periods. **Therefore, we urge you to send your children into school with extra jumpers/cardigans which they can wear over their school sweatshirts. Anything you already have at home will be acceptable.**
- Children should continue to come to school in their P.E. kits on P.E. days – teachers will remind you of these on Class Dojo.
- Children should only bring to school essential items – school bag with reading book/reading diary/coat/hat/gloves/lunch box.
- Please note that government guidance still states that children in primary school do not need to wear masks in school.

We must all still be vigilant for Covid symptoms and rigorous in following measures to reduce the risk of transmission. In the event of individual/bubble/whole school isolation or closure, teachers will continue to provide home learning as they do at the moment and this will continue to be the case for as long as necessary.

Accompanying this letter is the first edition of the schools’ SEN newsletter for parents. On this occasion it will be emailed to everyone as it has a wide-ranging brief, but subsequent editions will be sent to parents of children on the SEND register and published on the schools’ website.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming your children back to school and will continue to do our very best to keep them safe and happy and learning. Our emphasis for the three weeks before the Easter holiday will be your children’s well-being and mental health.

Yours sincerely

Lucy Bates  
Headteacher