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2 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back

We are so excited to be welcoming everyone back on 8th March and having our whole community connected again. Whilst our staff team, and you as parents, have done a great job at supporting hybrid learning, there is nothing like the energy that 190 children in a school can create!

Safety measures

For the time being we will need to continue with our safety measures. Whilst there is hope on the horizon, we must continue to work together as a community to keep everyone safe. Below is a summary of what we do in school:

- The children are grouped in protective “bubbles”.
- Classrooms are well-ventilated and outdoor learning takes place often.
- Face coverings are worn by staff in communal areas, such as corridors and staff rooms.
- Asymptomatic testing of staff takes place twice a week.
- We stagger start/end times and use two different entrances/exits.
- Children and staff clean their hands thoroughly and often.
- We encourage good hygiene at all times.
- Extra cleaning takes place.
- In most classes, tables are positioned in rows to avoid extra face-to-face contact.
- Individual stationery packs are provided for each child.

Rules

You can help to keep our school community safe by following these rules:

- Do not send your child to school if they, or anyone in your household, has coronavirus symptoms (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss/change to sense of smell or taste).
- Arrange to take a test and then report the result to: admin@abbeywoods.anthemtrust.uk
- Keep a safe distance from other parents/carers (2 metres apart) when dropping off/collecting from school.
- Wear a face covering/mask when dropping off/collecting from school.
- Arrive on time (not early or late) and leave quickly.





Staggered start/end times

In order to avoid too many people congregating at the school gates at the same time, we are continuing to stagger start and finish times. It is very important that you arrive on time and leave promptly. Timings are as follows:

Year group	Entrance/exit	Arrival time	Departure time
Nursery	Back gate	8:45	12:00 or 3:00
Reception	Back gate	8:45	3:15
Year 1	Back gate/front gate	8:45	3:15
Year 2	Back gate/front gate	8:45	3:15
Year 3	Back gate/front gate	8:30	3:00
Year 4	Back gate/front gate	8:30	3:00
Year 5	Back gate/front gate	8:30	3:00
Year 6	Back gate/front gate	8:30	3:00

More than one child?

Parents with more than one child whose children have different start/finish times can bring all of their children at the earlier time and collect at the later time so that they do not need to wait for any longer than is necessary.

Travelling to school

Please walk or cycle to school if you can. If this is not possible, please do not park on the white lines outside the front entrance gate as this can cause unnecessary congestion and is an increased danger to the children.

School meals

The kitchen will be providing the full menu. School meals are free to all children in Reception and Key Stage 1 and for all children eligible for free school meals due to benefits received. All other children in Key Stage 2 can purchase meals for £2.10 per meal.

PE

Please ensure your child comes to school on the following days in their **PE kits**:

Year group	
Year 1	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 2	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 3	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 4	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 5	Tuesday and Friday
Year 6	Thursday and tbc



Forest School

Nursery and Reception will have Forest School on Friday afternoons.

Rapid lateral flow testing for parents/carers of children at school

All school staff have already started self-testing twice per week using lateral flow devices. These give a result in 30 minutes. The Department of Health and Social Care recently announced that households with primary school age children can also test themselves twice every week at home as schools return from Monday 8 March. Schools will not be giving out the tests. Instead, they can be accessed:

- via employers if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

For more information, please read the [guidance](#) which provides information on who can be tested and how you can get a test.

Wellbeing and feeling safe

All of the staff here are very much looking forward to welcoming the children who have been learning at home back into school. Our priority is the children's wellbeing and making sure they feel safe. We know that we will be welcoming back children who have had a range of different experiences since the beginning of January.

When the children return, we will focus on reconnecting and rebuilding our school community. We will focus on relationships, wellbeing and learning by re-establishing engagement, motivation, excitement, comfort, reassurance and routine. We will work sensitively with the children to identify any gaps and then help them to make swift progress in their learning.

Google Classroom

We will continue to use Google Classroom to support learning in school and at home. In the event of a local outbreak, or cases of infections in school, it may be necessary for individual children, classes or year groups to stay at home. We will always take and follow advice from our local health protection team and other appropriate authorities. If children do need to self-isolate, we will seamlessly switch to Google Classroom and provide access to high quality remote education.

Laptop loans

If you were lent a laptop by school through the lockdown period, then we will be asking you to return the laptop/charger/bag to the office in a named carrier bag on Monday 8th March and Tuesday 9th March.



Finally

For those of you with children at home, you only have a few days left of Remote Learning! I would like to emphasise that we appreciate the efforts that each and every one of you have put in to facilitate this so successfully.

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 8th March.

Yours sincerely

Sophie Charter

Headteacher