



Aqueduct Primary School

Castlefields Way, Aqueduct, Telford. TF4 3RP

Telephone: 01952 386210

Head Teacher: Mrs T Lockley

Chair of Governors: Mrs L. Aubrey

*Building
tomorrow, leading
the way.*

15.7.20

Plans for September and whole school return.

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are very much looking forward to welcoming ALL children back into school in September.

Throughout this very unusual time, we as a school have strictly followed the Government advice. Our priorities have been for the safety of our staff and your children and we continue to follow the guidance to ensure the safest possible full opening of school in September. Thank you to those of you who have shown patience and understanding as we have reminded you of safe social distancing when bringing or collecting your children and whilst being on site. We appreciate your full co-operation and understanding that we are still experiencing a global pandemic and that in fact Covid-19 is still a risk to all of us. I hope the following information provides you with assurance that our procedures and policies will continue to meet the guidance and advice issued to all educational settings.

We know that returning to school is vital not just for children's education, but for their well-being too. The impact of missed schooling can affect both current levels of learning and children's future ability to learn, and therefore we are ensuring all our pupils can return to Aqueduct. The Department for Education has stated that given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. They go on to say that there cannot be a 'one-size-fits-all' approach. They say that school leaders are best placed to understand the needs of their schools and to make informed judgements about how to balance delivering a broad and balanced curriculum with the measures needed to manage risk.

We will of course be continuing to follow public health advice to ensure that we minimise the risk of the transmission of coronavirus at Aqueduct.

School safety

We will continue to comply with health and safety law, which requires us to assess risks and put in place risk assessments. This will include the following:



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STANDARD
SCHOOLS

Positivity

Respect

Kindness

Safety

Happiness

Learning

- any child or member of staff who is ill should stay at home and inform school immediately
- If anyone in school becomes unwell with Coronavirus symptoms they will be sent home and advised to follow current guidance from the Government and Public Health England. We will ensure that anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home immediately and that our protocol is followed.
- Face coverings are **not** encouraged or required in school settings.
- If we do have a case in school, we are fully aware of the 'track and trace' requirements and are clear as to the protocol for schools to follow should this be the case.
- continuing our robust hand washing systems for all.
- continue to promote the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' approach towards respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements will continue in every part of school - we have ensured we have plenty of cleaning products ready for the Autumn term and that regular rubbish collection and toilet cleaning is maintained.
- reducing contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible - the DfE recognise that 'schools should assess their circumstances and if class-sized groups are not compatible with offering a full range of subjects or managing the practical logistics within and around school, they can look to implement year group sized 'bubbles'. The key is knowing who has been in contact with who for 'track and trace' purposes. The DfE also recognises that 'younger children will not be able to maintain social distancing, and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group.'

How contacts are reduced will depend on the school's circumstances and will (as much as possible) include:

- grouping children together - 'Endeavouring to keep groups at least partially separate and minimising contacts between children will still offer public health benefits as it reduces the network of possible direct transmissions'
- assemblies will take place as virtual or bubble assemblies
- arranging classrooms with forward facing desks (where possible) and with encouragement for children to maintain safe distancing. Reception children will continue to be sat in groups.
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible

Drop off and collection

There will be no staggered start or end times to our day. Instead, as we are lucky to have multiple entry and exit points on our school site, we can separate gatherings far better than many other schools. We will be staffing these points. Gates will be open between 8:45 - 9am and 3:15pm - 3:25pm providing plenty of time to drop off and collect children in different year groups at different entry and exit points.

We are politely asking that only one parent is on site with your child/children at any point and that you encourage your child to enter independently where possible. We hope you understand that collection at the end of a day will need to be done with teachers having sight of an agreed adult who is on your list of contacts, unless the child is in year 6 and you have informed us that they are allowed to walk out of the school gates unaccompanied by an adult to meet you somewhere. Older children will not be allowed to go and collect younger children from different bubbles. These younger children will need to be met by an adult.

KSI Bubble	Entry point on to the site	Wait area	Entry and exit door	
Class 1 (Reception)	<p>Main front pedestrian gate.</p> 	Outside reception play area.	Class 1 fire door	
Class 2 (Y1)		Lower playground	Class 2 fire door	
Class 3 (Y1/2)		Lower playground	KS1 main doors	
Class 4 (Y2)		Lower playground	KS1 main doors	
Lower KS2 Bubble	Entry point on to the site	Wait area	Entry and exit door	
Class 5 (Y3/4)	<p>Back gates at the top of the field.</p> 	Courtyard	Main lower KS2 doors (by the hall)	
Class 6 (Y3/4)		Courtyard	Door by the ActivAll board.	
Class 7 (Y3/4)		Courtyard	Class 7 fire exit.	
Upper KS2 Bubble	Entry point on to the site	Wait area	Entry and exit door	
Class 8 (Y5)	<p>Old gate off the main road.</p> 	Upper KS2 playground	Class 8 fire exit.	
Class 9 (Y6)		Back of car park outside blue gate.	Class 9 fire exit.	
Class 10 (Y5/6)		Back of car park outside blue gate.	Class 10 fire exit.	

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Attendance and equipment

The usual school rules will once more apply from September and **all children** will be expected to be in school (unless following public health advice because of self-isolating or following a positive test result). All children will have their own pot or pencil case of resources in school and will not share resources unless absolutely necessary and can be cleaned afterwards. Bags will be allowed in school, but pupils should limit what they bring to just essentials: e.g. lunch boxes, reading/homework books.

We will also return to **full school uniform**: White shirt, blouse or polo top, red school logo jumper or cardigan, black trousers or skirt and black school shoes (not trainers). **PE kits** will also be expected to be in school all week comprising of a red T-shirt and blue shorts or jogging bottoms with trainers. We ask that your child remembers to take their PE kit home at the end of the week for washing please.

Curriculum and Learning

Teachers have already been planning a full recovery curriculum including a wealth of information and training for staff to support your children's emotional health and wellbeing. We welcome Mrs Batchelor as our Inclusion Support Manager in September who will be on hand with a wealth of knowledge and experience to support pupils, staff and you as parents and carers as we all try to adapt to the new 'normal' way of doing things. Positive mental health will be a focus for staff within the first few weeks of returning with reading, writing and maths embedded into all of our curriculum subjects. We will continue to deliver our broad and balanced curriculum following the 3I's and policy which can be found on our school website.

'All teachers and other staff can operate across different classes and year groups in order to facilitate the delivery of the school timetable. Teachers can work across groups if that is needed to enable a full educational offer.' We will continue to ask you to prioritise reading as a key skill which underpins everything (please help your child by carrying out as much reading with them at home as you can over the summer holiday). We will be assessing starting points and knowledge gaps at the beginning of the new academic year to ensure we personalise learning for every pupil. Teachers have already begun planning ways to fill gaps in core subjects so that no child is disadvantaged during the time they have spent away from school. Your support with home learning and reading will only help your child get back on track more quickly.

And finally...

The DfE state that 'the benefits of children being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus.' 'All schools must follow the system of controls, but the way different schools implement some of the requirements will differ based on their individual circumstances.'

We really are working so hard on making sure we continue to get it right for our children and families. We hope you find this information both useful and assuring.

If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with school by telephone or email. We look forward to seeing you all in September and wish you a happy and healthy summer holiday.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mrs Tammy Lockley
Head Teacher

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