

Arrangements for March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start by thanking you in advance on behalf of the governors and staff for your support during this challenging period and I assure you that the health and well-being of the children of Marsh Hill School is, and will continue to be, our first and foremost priority.

Attendance Regulations

Full attendance for all pupils is still mandatory and all children will be in full uniform. The ideal is still that children are in clean clothes every day if possible.

Grouping Pupils (Bubbles)

To continue to ensure that we assess risks and relevant control measures are in place, the school is still split into year group 'bubbles'. Maintaining distinct 'bubbles' or 'bubbles' that do not mix makes it easier and quicker to identify staff and pupils who may need to self-isolate.

Year group consistent bubbles are important because it means that children will be able to access their full entitlement of the National Curriculum. Our bubbles will arrive/leave school at the same time, have playtimes and lunchtimes together, and classes within the year group bubbles will learn together.

As a result, we will take steps to limit interaction amongst different groups of children in school by the following means:

- At playtimes, children in each year group will have a separate and defined part of the playground to play in.
- At lunch times children in KS1 will have a designated area of the dining hall and playground
- Children in KS2 will be following the 20, 20, 20 principle. This means children will have 20 minutes in the dining hall, 20 minutes in class doing a fun activity or activities of their choice and 20 minutes in the playground. This, again, is to minimise contact with other year groups and to avoid, as much as possible, year group bubbles being in too close contact in the dining hall or in the playground.

Hygiene

When arriving at school, children will use the class hand sanitiser and wash their hands before and after food, and after using the toilet.

- Children will be specifically taught good hygiene and reminded daily by staff and signage
- Children will be provided with their own learning resources
- Classroom tables will be wiped after each learning session and cleaned daily by cleaners
- Lunch tables will be wiped after each bubble has finished lunch

Classroom Organisation

Pupils in EYFS, Year 1 and 2 will be sat at table groups.

Pupils in Years 3 to 6 will sit in rows that face the front of the class.

Children will have class learning packs containing their own equipment (pens, pencils, rulers, pencil sharpener). Children will not be required or permitted to bring in their own pen, pencils, rulers etc.

Learning packs will be disinfected by the class teacher/TA at lunchtime and at the end of the day

Curriculum

We will be teaching a broad and balanced curriculum focusing on physical activity, wellbeing and mental health of our pupils as well as key skills. Our high standards and ambition for all children to achieve to their full potential will be at the core of our teaching with a focus on the core skills.



Arrangements for the Start and End of School Day

- We ask that only one parent/carer to bring/pick up children from school. We ask that you leave with your child straight away and avoid congregating with other parents in the immediate vicinity of the school.
- Parents/carers must wear a face covering when on the school site, this includes the playground because we cannot guarantee social distancing on the pavements in and out of school.

EYFS

- Start time – 8.40-8.50am
- Children will be dismissed from the EYFS doors at **3pm**

Key stage 1:

- Start time – 8.40-8.50am
- Year 1 children will enter the school building at the beginning of the day through the main doors that lead in from the KS1 playground.
- Year 1 will be dismissed from the KS1 playground at **3.10pm**
- Year 2 will enter the school building at the beginning of the day through the hall doors.
- Year 2 will be dismissed from the hall door at **3.15pm**

Key stage 2: (Refer to map for clarification)

- Start time – 8.40-8.50am
- Classes 3A, 5M, 6KC, 6C will enter and exit the building through the door situated next to the staircase that leads down from the EYFS (Reception) playground into the KS2 part of the school.
- Classes 3W, 4H, 4P, 5J will enter and exit the building through the main KS2 doors that open up directly onto the KS2 playground.
- Year 3 and 4 will be dismissed at **3.10pm**
- Years 5 and Year 6 will be dismissed at **3.15pm**

Before and After School Clubs Provision

As a school, we have taken the decision not to run any after school clubs for this half term. We will, however, still be running Breakfast Club from 8.10am, and we will be making provision for pupils who attend Breakfast Club to sit in their year group bubble. Under new guidance, breakfast club should be used only where it is reasonably necessary to support parents to work, search for work, or undertake training or education.

Food Provision

The school kitchen continues to be fully open and normal legal requirements will apply about provision of food to all pupils who want it, including for those eligible for benefits-related free school meals or universal infant free school meals.

EYFS/Key Stage 1 - Fruit will be provided (by the City) for children at play time but please send your child in with their own water bottle.

Key Stage 2 – Please send children in with a healthy snack and their own water bottle. The snack must be a healthy one, crisps and chocolate bars are not permitted at playtime. A reminder that we are a NUT FREE school, so please ensure snacks do not contain nuts.

Logistics in school – Whole school:

- Assemblies: We will not be meeting in the hall for whole school assemblies or collective worship. However, we will be having class assemblies to share our school values and celebrations.
- Class sizes: Thirty children will be in each class, as normal.
- P.E. and Sport will take place in class groups to maintain their health. Each class will have their own sports box, with equipment in it for their class only. Separate lunchtime games boxes will



also be provided for class use. Sports equipment will be disinfected after each class' use. Swimming will not take place until further notice. Children are to come into school wearing their PE kit on the day they do PE. (Black tracksuit, white t-shirt and trainers)

- Educational Visits will not take place in the spring term. Residential will not take place this academic year.

How parents can further reduce the risk of Infection

- Be punctual and follow the social distancing guidelines
- If your child displays **coughing, fever, loss of smell or taste** then they **MUST NOT** come to school. Instead get tested via [NHS UK](https://www.nhs.uk) or by contacting NHS 119 via telephone if they do not have internet access where a test can be arranged for your child and family members.
- Children can return to school after a **negative test or 10 days isolation and no longer displaying symptoms**; siblings would have to isolate for 10 days.
- Parents/carers **cannot** use school toilets
- **Contact school about concerns only** by class e-mail, enquiry e-mail, website contact us or phone call; **NOT** via the office, unless it is an **EMERGENCY**

Safeguarding

Ensuring safeguarding arrangements remain effective while the school transitions to opening more widely is a key priority. Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy was updated during the partial closure to include provisions for keeping pupils safe – we will continue to follow these procedures for the few pupils who may remain at home (i.e. due to shielding/self-isolation), where appropriate, until all pupils return to school. We will continue to ensure that if anyone in the school has a safeguarding concern about a pupil, they act immediately and that a DSL or deputy DSL is always available.

We would like to thank you for your understanding and assure you that we will keep you updated in regard to any recommendations issued by the DfE, other government agencies and/or Public Health England; and advise you of any changes to our procedures that these recommendations may result in.

Best wishes,

John Cusack

