

2nd March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Full re-opening – Monday 8th March 2021

I hope you are all well and looking forward to our full re-opening on Monday 8th March. I know I can speak for all our staff in expressing how keen we are to welcome our pupils back, whilst also feeling anxious about how the return will work for our school community.

You will be aware we have arranged for our KS3 pupils to have their first Lateral Flow Test this weekend. This is to ensure all children can return fully on March 8th. We hope that by taking this step, we will be able to re-establish as much normality, as quickly as possible, for all children.

All arrangements for reopening will be the same as they were when we started the academic year in September 2020.

Pupils should not expect any significant changes, although we will be asking all children to wear face masks in the classroom wherever possible.

They will remain in their year group bubbles as they were before Christmas. The staggered starts, lunchtimes and finishes will be the same.

Start/finish times

KS2 Pupils (Years 5 & 6)

Arrival time 8.35 am, finish time 3.00 pm

KS3 Pupils (Years 7 & 8)

Arrival time 8.50, finish time 3.15 pm

If it is absolutely necessary, older siblings can arrive at the earlier drop off time, and we will supervise them before their peers arrive. Younger children will also be supervised should they need to wait for a sibling at the end of the day.

We will not be able to provide a breakfast club for these next 4 weeks until Easter. However, we will be able to supervise a very limited number of pupils from 8.00 am should this be absolutely necessary. (Please email the school office should you require this provision). School will be open for a short period for these children from 8.00am to 8.05am.

Codsall Middle School

Wolverhampton Road, Codsall, Staffordshire WV8 1PB

Tel: 01902 843177 Fax: 01902 841648

Email: office@codsall-middle.staffs.sch.uk

Website: www.codsall-middle.staffs.sch.uk



@codsall_middle

Headteacher: Mr P J Bowers MAEd



So that we can maximise the space for walking into school, the front gates will not be open for traffic (apart from official school transport).

Behaviour

Could I ask that you support all our efforts to ensure our school runs as calmly and effectively as possible during these difficult times? The measures we are putting into place are to protect our entire school community and we will have heightened expectations with regards to appropriate behaviour of all pupils. In particular, we will expect calm movement around the corridors and minimal interaction at all times.

It is imperative that pupils listen to and follow all instructions. We will not hesitate to send a pupil home or refuse entrance should they behave in a manner which could potentially endanger others. This includes behaviour beyond the school gates, particularly on arrival and dismissal. There are expected protocols for social distancing that we must all follow and it is imperative your child adheres to these at all times.

Hygiene

We will be cleaning all areas more thoroughly and frequently. There are, of course, expectations that children should be washing their hands with increased regularity. This will be expected of them after they visit the toilet, before they eat and at break and lunchtimes. Colleagues will also be providing pupils with hand gel as they enter every classroom.

Break and Lunchtimes

KS2 and KS3 pupils will have different break and lunchtimes. Individual year groups will be allocated to different areas of the playground and field during these times.

Hot food will be available as usual from the canteen at lunchtime. Each year group will be allocated their usual sandwich eating areas.

We have always encouraged children to spend their break and lunchtimes outside as much as possible. **This will now be compulsory.** Could I ask that you support us in ensuring your child attends with an appropriate coat? They will be outside even in the most inclement weather and they will also be using external doors to move between lessons.

Curriculum provision

We will provide our full, broad range of curriculum activities. This will include all practical subjects such as PE, Music, Art/D&T etc.

Phones

We actively discourage mobile phones from being brought in to school. Collection and storage of phones during this time is very problematic. No child needs a phone once they are in school. Could I ask that wherever possible you do not send your child to school with a phone?

Equipment

Pupils should not bring in any paper copies of work that they have completed at home. They simply need their pencil case, water bottle and a packed lunch as appropriate.

Uniform

Pupils will be expected to attend in full school uniform.

Visiting school site

To minimise contact, wherever possible please communicate with us by email, most questions can be answered remotely. If you need to come on to the school site, please communicate in advance. Only one adult will be permitted into reception at any one time.

School Transport

For those of you who use school transport, you will be aware this is managed by the Staffordshire Transport service. We are in communication with them and they will be issuing guidance in the near future.

All of our suggested plans and systems are constantly reviewed and updated and are approved by our Academy Directors and the Staffordshire Health and Safety team. We will continue to review and amend all of our arrangements.

As ever, can I ask for your continued support and patience during this time? I will always welcome comments and feedback, but would ask that you appreciate the context we work in at CMS is unique to us as a school and may differ to examples that are sometimes portrayed in the media.

Our focus during these first few weeks leading up to Easter will be on the successful re-integration of pupils back into full-time education. I do not underestimate the difficulties many families have encountered during this time and we are fully focussed on providing whatever care and support your child will need to ensure a safe and happy return. If there are any particular circumstances that we should be made aware of in advance of their return, please contact either Mrs Deas (for Year 5 and 6 pupils: st@codsall-middle.staffs.sch.uk) or Mrs Davison (for Year 7 and 8 pupils: md@codsall-middle.staffs.sch.uk) at your earliest opportunity.

School will be as "normal" as possible. In spite of all the restrictions in place, we pride ourselves on being a busy, caring, happy community with excellent provision in all areas. I know all our staff are keen to return to their classrooms and engage and inspire the children as soon as possible.

I hope you have all the information you need for our full re-opening. Should you have any specific queries please do not hesitate to contact us via the usual methods.

Kind regards



P J Bowers
Headteacher

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