



# Goldenhill Primary Academy



Head teacher: Mr. S Martin BA (Hons).NPQH

*"Everyone shines at Goldenhill"*

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Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## RE: September 2020 Academy Opening

Dear Parent and Carers,

I hope everyone remains safe and well, in these continuing difficult times.

We are now over six weeks into our phased reopening of school to larger groups of pupils. It has been a real pleasure to welcome Nursey, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 back. I have to say that none of the children who've come back have been upset, they've all adapted to the changes brilliantly, they've all got straight back to it and have loved getting back to work.

We are really looking forward to welcoming all children back to school in September.

Education Secretary Gavin Williamson announced the full plans for returning to school to parliament last Thursday, with the caveat that a "full return" of all pupils will be reconfirmed on 11th August after the latest Covid-19 data is considered.

The link to this guidance for parents and carers is below and is available on the academy website (under the parents section- Coronavirus). <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

These plans recommend:

- No in-class social distancing requirement for primary pupils. Pupils will be kept in Year Group 'bubbles' where possible.
- Teachers advised to keep 2m away from pupils, at the front of the class, and away from colleagues as much as possible.
- Compulsory engagement with the NHS Test and Trace system, with whole year groups liable to be sent home if a pupil tests positive, but whole school closure not seen as generally necessary.
- No face coverings for pupils or teachers, on Public Health England advice, as they "interfere" with teaching and learning.
- Pupils wearing normal uniform and washing hands throughout the day.
- Teachers advised to spend no more than 15 minutes at any one time closer than 1m to anyone.
- Attendance is mandatory for pupils.
- Staggered start and finish times and alternative entrance and exits for different year groups. This will involve some differences in what parents and carers class as normality.

We have a number of plans in place for many different scenarios in September. The Government appear to be directing schools to open to all pupils and, if it is deemed safe to do so, this will be our 'Plan A'.



Please note that our last day for pupils in school will be **Thursday, 16th July 2020**. The academy will not be open for pupils during the summer break.

We are provisionally expecting all pupils will have phased back into school by Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, with pupils being kept in whole year group 'bubbles.'

Please note, next year's Nursery class will have a transitional start to the year to enable them to settle. This will be communicated separately to next year's Nursery children.

I will endeavour to keep everyone up-to-date with our plans as they evolve with the ever-changing government guidance.

**Questions you may have:**

**What will happen when the academy fully opens in September?**

Following the governments guidance we want to ensure that the full opening of our academy is in a safe and phased way to support the staff, children and parents. In order to do this effectively we will be staggering the day in which the different year groups start.

Phased return for year groups in September 2020

*Please note this is the planned phased return **ONLY** if the Government says it is safe to start a full opening of primary schools **FROM September 2020***

Day/date	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
Year group	BANK HOLIDAY	INSET DAY	INSET DAY	Year 2 Year 6	Year 2 Year 6

Day/date	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> September
Year group	Reception Year 2 Year 5 Year 6	Reception Year 2 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6	Reception Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6	Reception Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6	Reception Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6

**What is being put in to place to keep everyone safe?**

We will continue to put in place the measures to that we have employed throughout the Lockdown period.

**Some of these measures are:**

- Children will be taught in Year Group 'bubbles' of 30 pupils. Children will not be able to cross to other bubbles. As a result, sadly, we will not be able to operate our Nurture Provision during the Autumn Term.
- Only essential visitors will be allowed in to school and communication with parents will need to be via the telephone or by e-mail.
- Children will not be allowed to share stationery. Any resources that need to be shared will be cleaned after use.
- Shared areas and surfaces will be cleaned daily and disinfected/bleached frequently
- Only 1 parent/carer can escort a child to school.
- Parents must adhere to the strict social distancing and follow the one-way 'drop off' and collection guidance for their child's year/teaching group.



- Parents must ensure that they adhere to the 'drop off' and collection times for their child's year/teaching group.
- Parents/carers cannot gather at school gates and doors.
- All children are supervised during handwashing at the start of each day, before and after break times and lunchtimes and are reminded to wash their hands when they use the toilet.
- Lunchtimes and breaks will be staggered.
- Assemblies will take place in the classrooms not the Main Hall via Microsoft TEAMS
- Movement around the school will be limited.
- Children will sit in rows facing the front of the classroom.
- Contact with the teacher or teaching assistant will be kept to a minimum.
- Classroom doors will be wedged open to reduce the times that people touch them.
- Additional cleaning will take place throughout the day and all surfaces are wiped down regularly throughout the day with Milton / bleach.
- To keep everyone safe we have made the decision that there will NOT be any trips until further notice. Similarly, we are not allowing parents or volunteer helpers into the main school building and ask for your patience and understanding.
- We are asking that parents / carers limit physical contact with school staff and use the telephone or e-mail wherever possible.
- Extra-curricular clubs will be starting after October half term; however, this will be kept under constant review.
- Please note that some staff may not be able to speak directly in person to parents / carers as part of their own risk assessment. Please be understanding and do not take offence if this happens, they will be happy to contact you by telephone. Thank you.

### **What will my child need to bring in to school in September?**

- Their own water bottle must be taken home and cleaned each day.
- Parents/carers and children will be told when their PE day(s) are. On those days children are to come into school wearing their P.E. kit and remain in their kit for the day. N.B. Children will **NOT** be allowed to borrow spare P.E. kit so it is important that ALL children come to school in their kit.
- Children who have sandwiches will need to bring their lunch either in a carrier bag or their lunch box. No large bags will be allowed.
- Free fruit will continue to be provided for children from Nursery to Year 2 as part of the Government's scheme.
- Free milk will continue to be provided for children under five years old. It will also be provided for children claiming free school meals.
- The children will be expected to wear their normal school uniform.

### **Is there anything that my child can not bring in to school?**

- Sadly, children cannot bring any toys or home learning projects into school.
- Your child will not be allowed to bring a pencil case into school. Your child will be given their own individual set of equipment by us.
- Home / School Diaries will not be transferred between home and school, but we will be sending a diary to each of you to record your child's home reading. N.B. If you have any messages for the teacher please contact the Main Office via telephone or e-mail.
- N.B. In line with Government guidelines children are not expected to wear face masks in school. If children arrive wearing a face mask they will need to remove it and place it in a carrier bag. They will NOT be allowed to wear it in class.

### **What provision is in place for school lunches?**

The following options are available for children regarding lunch:

- Children can bring in a packed lunch from home.
- Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a Free School Meal under the government's Universal Free School Meal scheme.
- Parents can purchase a lunch for their child via Parent Pay.



- If your child is eligible for Free School Meals they can have a free school lunch.

**Please note all meals will be served and eaten in your child's classroom as part of our safety measures.**

**What if I need to pass a message onto the staff teaching my child?**

Staff will also be adhering to the social distancing measures where possible and as a result, we want to minimise parent to staff contact. If you have a message for a member of staff, please contact the main office or email the academy at: [office@goldenhillprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@goldenhillprimary.org.uk)

**Where can I find more information?**

Please check the information on the Societas Trust website where you will find the Trust's Recovery and Reset Policy, weekly statements, messages from our C.E.O., Mr Lovatt and risk assessments for each academy. This information and our policies are reviewed on a regular basis. [www.societatrust.org.uk](http://www.societatrust.org.uk)

Please note, even with the large degree of planning that has already happened, we will still need to review all of the new systems we have put into place and may have to make changes to them. If this is the case we will let parents know.

I hope that the content of this letter helps to reassure you how important your child's safety is to us.

Please note that the decision to fully open schools in September is based on the science saying that it is safe to do so. With this in mind, the arrangements described in this letter will only take place if this happens. We will message parents as soon as the UK government updates us.

Please take care and keep safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S Martin

Head Teacher

