

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well and that you have been able to enjoy holiday activities with your children during the summer break.

Although teaching staff are also on annual leave from school, there is much work being completed both in school and by staff at home in readiness for the whole school opening on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Nursery parents of new starters were informed in July of their individual start dates.

The purpose of this letter is to share some government updates and to reassure parents that school will be fully open as of Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. The school sent an FAQ document and published it on the school website. We have updated the FAQs in line with the government guidance that was sent to schools on the 28<sup>th</sup> August. Our risk assessment and preparations made in July continue to fully meet the government guidance. I have written an annex to the risk assessment which governors are currently reviewing.

The government have released a further update to the [parent guidance](#) in respect of the full opening of schools and use of childminders.

As previously stated children will wear full school uniform. Parents will be informed what day children will have PE on, once we have returned to school. Plain black tracksuit bottoms are being added to our uniform. As PE will be held outside as much as possible, it is important that children are dressed for all weather conditions!

We will be posting photos of our new line markings to support lining up before and after school on our school Twitter accounts once all school preparations have been completed. Our main account is @DaneRoydSchool.

As part of our procedures to support safety in school, we are having a number of outdoor sinks installed that will allow handwashing to take place with ease at the start and end of the school day as well as at break times.

Following the resignation of our caretaker Mr Dermody at the end of term, I am pleased to announce that we have appointed a new caretaker. Mr Hargate will be joining us at the start of term.

Miss Tolson, will be joining our Lower Key Stage 2 teaching team as our new Year 3 teacher. We warmly welcome both new staff members to our school team.

I have placed a link and information at the bottom of this letter on the changed guidance in respect of self-isolation, household isolation and the response to negative or positive Coronavirus tests. This guidance is written by the government and provided to school as part of school guidance procedures.

I understand that each person will have a very individual view point on the pandemic, the handling of it, the response put in place by the government and the guidance produced. As a school we are following the guidance and documentation provided by the government.

During the national lockdown and whole school closures there are some children who have not been in school since the 20<sup>th</sup> March. We understand many children will be very excited to return, even with the changes we have had to put in place, other children may feel some anxiety, that is only

natural. Mrs White has been appointed as our lead on pupil well-being and mental health. Mrs Kendall has worked throughout the summer term to prepare curriculum guidance for our teachers on supporting pupils to return to class and to support anxieties. Each pupil will be supported where needed and we will telephone parents when we feel there is the need to.

Please do read the FAQ version 2 document that we are attaching in this e-mail. We have put all of these steps in place to support your child and their well-being. Please do follow the guidance and the systems and measures that our school has put in place.

I look forward to welcoming your children to school next week.

Kind regards

Miss Kelly

Headteacher

Please find below the latest guidance from the government guidance to schools 28/08/20 . This guidance can also be found in the following document.

**<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>**

**1. Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school**

Ensuring that pupils, staff and other adults do not come into the school if they have [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#) or have tested positive in at least the last 10 days and ensuring anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home, are essential actions to reduce the risk in schools and further drive down transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

All schools must follow this process and ensure all staff are aware of it.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#), which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).

If they have tested positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they should restart the 10-day isolation period from the day they develop symptoms.

Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

