

17th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of new Reception children

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

Further to our previous letter, I would like to give an update on transition for children starting in Reception in September. Unfortunately, there are still many questions that we are unable to answer but would like to share our plans so far.

**New Starter Meetings and Transition Visits**
By this stage in the term, we would have normally held induction meetings for parents and began transition visits for children, but it is now clear this is not going to be possible before the summer. We are currently only able to allow essential visitors into school so will not be able to hold face to face meetings or visits this term. Whilst we had considered virtual meetings, we feel there is still limited information we can provide at this point. We therefore intend to postpone this important transition work until the autumn term.

We still do not know what the position for schools will be in September or whether all primary school children will be allowed to return full time. However, if all children do return, we are planning a more staggered approach for new Reception children which may be:

* 2nd – 4th September Induction meetings for parents
 1 hour visits with parent and child to the Reception setting
* 7th - 11th September Children attend school **either** morning **or** afternoon, in groups of 15
* 14th – 18th September Children attend for **2 full days**, in groups of 15
* Wk beg 21st September All children attend school full time

**This is very much subject to government direction and guidance and therefore could change.** However, we wanted to provide an overview of our current plans so that parents can start to consider personal arrangements.

**Communication with Nurseries**Mrs Hallatt (Reception teacher) has begun to contact your child’s current nurseries in order to begin the transition process and gather information that will help us to support your child.

**Class Dojo**Since the beginning of Lockdown, our school have used Class Dojo as a tool to communicate with children and parents. Teachers have set home learning tasks, uploaded newsletters and information, responded to queries from parents and been able to offer help and support. We have had very positive feedback and want to extend this to Reception parents prior to children starting school.

Mrs Hallatt plans to start uploading storytelling sessions onto Class Dojo so that children can see who their new teacher will be and start to become familiar with her. **Please email school by 24th June to confirm if you’re happy for us to set up a login for Class Dojo. We’ll just use the email address you provided to set it up unless you tell us otherwise.**

**Transition booklets**
A transition booklet will be sent out for each child at the end of term, when we will hopefully know more about what September will look like. The booklet is to share with your child and will have pictures of the Reception classroom and staff children will be working with. Mrs Hallatt is going to hand deliver these to each child (observing social distancing) during the last week of term (13th – 17th July). If you and your child are at home, it’d be great if you could pop outside to say hello so Mrs Hallatt can meet you.

As we receive further government and local authority guidance, we’ll provide further updates when we can. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Yours sincerely

P Nelson

Mrs P Nelson
Headteacher