



Uffculme Primary School

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Wednesday 3rd March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to my letter on the 25th February, I am writing to you to say how excited we all are at Uffculme Primary School to welcome all children back to school on Monday 8th March. We have all missed the buzz of learning and the voices in the corridors during this current lockdown; a school is nothing without the wonderful children who inhabit them.

The staff have been working tirelessly during the last couple of weeks to ensure we have a smooth transition back to school and that the school is as safe as it can be. We have had to make some additional changes since December in order to keep everyone safe. We expect all staff and parents to work together in maintaining our safety measures. Please read this letter carefully for changes and reminders of our procedures.

At school, we will continue to follow our risk assessment and the guidance sent to us by the Department for Education to ensure we minimise the risk as much as we possibly can. Remote learning will continue to be in place for individuals or class bubbles should they need to isolate at home.

In line with the school's attendance policy, your child is expected to be in school from Monday 8th March. If for any reason, this is not possible, please contact the school office before 9.30am. If your child has not arrived by 9.30am we will be giving you a call.

Beginning and end of the school day;

- Please continue to wear a face covering at drop off and pick up. *You must wear one unless you are medically exempt.* Please respect this rule to keep us safe.
- All staff will continue to wear face coverings at drop-off/pick-up and in communal areas throughout the school.
- All staff have access to twice-weekly testing.
- Only ONE adult per family allowed on school site to help to maintain social distancing. Keep a 2-metre distance please.
- NO access to the school building and only one adult will be allowed in the foyer at any one time.
- Timings and drop-off points remain the same, please see below – however, **Year 3** will now need to **line up on the playground** and will enter the school via the fire exit **near the old swimming pool**. They will also be collected from the playground.

Year	Morning drop-off	Afternoon collection
Reception (Mrs Sharpe)	09:00 – playground benches	15:20 - playground
Year 1 (Mrs Cole)	08:50 – p/ground near field	15:10 - playground
Year 2 (Mrs Moss & Mrs Wright)	08:50 – playground MUGA	15:10 - playground
Year 3 (Mr Loosemore)	09:00 – p/ground near field	15:30 - playground
Year 4 (Mr Everson)	09:00 – Year 4 door	15:30 – Year 4 door
Year 5 (Mrs Hayman)	08:50 – Year 4 door	15:20 – Year 4 door
Year 6 (Miss Brown)	08:50 – Year 6 door	15:20 – Year 6 door

- Please do arrive at the permitted times and leave our site promptly. You are reminded not to arrive too early as we need to keep the number of people on-site as low as we can. If you are waiting with a sibling, you must wait on the playground until the class drop-off/collection time.
- Messages must be given to the office via the outdoor post box.
- Please don't approach teachers for face to face conversations. You can pass messages through the office via email or telephone messages.
- Risk Assessment- this will be updated and available to you this week.

Throughout the school day;

- Pupils and staff to remain in their 'bubbles'. *Most* staff now only have one bubble.
- Regular hand washing, hand sanitising and stringent cleaning routines will be maintained and monitored.
- The health and wellbeing of all staff and children is monitored - pupils and staff are not allowed on site if they display any symptoms.
- All rooms and corridors are well ventilated to allow for air flow and movement.
- Movement of bubbles and staff continues to be restricted.

Uniform and clothing;

- We need to keep the classrooms well ventilated. Children can wear an extra layer under their uniform to keep themselves warm. However, the weather is improving all the time, so temperatures are becoming more comfortable.
- All children need a coat with them every day.
- If you need help with school uniform, you should talk to the class teacher or the Head teacher.
- Children need to bring a named water bottle to school. This should only consist of water.
- Years 5 & 6 are advised to bring an extra pair of shoes to school as they may use the field at lunchtimes if the weather allows. However, at this time of year, the field is still slightly damp and muddy, so we are asking children to bring in a pair of lunchtime shoes. As a result, Year 5 are allowed to bring in rucksacks to help with this. Year 6 can continue to bring in their rucksacks as usual.
- PE kits are to be worn to school on the days the class has PE, **including Reception, Year 1 and Year 2:**
 - Reception: Monday & Thursday
 - Year 1: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
 - Year 2: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
 - Year 3: Tuesday & Wednesday
 - Year 4: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
 - Year 5: Monday, Thursday & Friday
 - Year 6: Monday & Friday

Curriculum;

There will be a strong emphasis on mental health, wellbeing and learning behaviours as we welcome back our children. Of course, teachers will find creative ways to ensure children have opportunities to review any learning they have missed, whilst also focusing on new areas of the curriculum.

Lunches;

Hot food will again be available to order on Parent Pay. Please remember that we are a nut free school and in order to keep those with allergies safe, we will not allow nut products on site. Please be mindful when preparing snacks and lunchboxes.

After school clubs;

Unfortunately, we are unable to run extra-curricular clubs at this present moment. We are hoping that this may change in the Summer Term and will let you know in due course.

Working together;

I know there is light at the end of the tunnel during this pandemic and things are heading in the right direction, but we cannot afford to become complacent. As we approach the next few weeks, we need to continue to work together to keep everyone as safe as we can. As a school, we will of course maintain our thorough health and safety procedures.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and carers who have worked incredibly hard to support their children during this lockdown, from becoming '*teachers*' with home learning tasks, '*computing experts*' by logging onto various Microsoft Teams meetings, or '*counsellor's*' by helping your child to talk about their thoughts and feelings in understanding Covid-19 and what lockdown means. You have all been amazing and you have my deepest gratitude, although I am sure you are all excited by the thought of sending your children back! I have been incredibly proud with the dedication and hard work of all the staff, children and the whole of our Uffculme community.

We look forward to seeing all of the children next week.

Yours sincerely

Mr F Wallace

Head teacher