

Thursday 25th February 2021

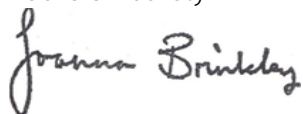
Dear Parents and Carers,

We were all delighted to hear the government's announcement on Monday that schools can fully open from Monday 8th March. Over the past few weeks, I have taken part in some of our teachers' Google Meet sessions and am full of admiration for the way everyone has embraced this new way of working (especially you and your children!). Your child's Head Teacher will be writing to you with more details about returning to your school, but in the meantime I would like to reassure you about the following points:

- Our first priority is to make the children feel welcome and happy within the routine of their usual curriculum and timetable, so they have the reassurance of school 'normality' as soon as possible.
- Schools will continue to operate staggered start and finish times. We would remind you to please not gather outside school or come into school without an appointment.
- Breakfast clubs, after school clubs and some outdoor after school activities will be open in your child's school. Further details to follow.
- Children will experience a wide and interesting curriculum of different subjects, as usual, and will have plenty of opportunities to revisit areas they may have forgotten or need more practice in. The Government has announced today, further funding for additional tutoring, and I will be in touch with you about how the Spring Partnership Trust schools plan to make use of it in due course.
- Schools will continue to work within Government's system of controls, just as they did last term. Pupils will be taught in class or year group bubbles (according to the space and staff of each Spring school). Touch points in communal areas of schools will be cleaned more frequently and staff will continue to wear face coverings in corridors and shared spaces (not while teaching). Classrooms and shared spaces will be well ventilated.
- Staff have been offered regular COVID self-testing.
- Pupils and staff with a letter from their GP, confirming they are 'clinically extremely vulnerable', should continue to work from home until at least after the Easter holidays.

From 8th March, attendance at school is compulsory and whilst we would expect most children to be eager to get back to school to see their friends again, we do understand that some may feel apprehensive, especially our reception children. If you are concerned, please do contact your child's school so staff can work with you to ensure a smooth transition back to school.

Yours sincerely



Jo Brinkley
Chief Executive Officer