

17th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Reopening of Greenbank Primary on Thursday 3rd September 2020

We hope you and your families are all well. We are looking forward to September when we will be able to welcome back all our pupils once again.

During the last few months we have enjoyed being with some of our pupils who were able to attend the Hub and those who later returned to school in June and July, but have greatly missed being together as a whole school community. We are hoping that we can quickly return to normal and re-establish the teaching and routines that the children are so familiar with. However given the serious nature of the Coronavirus, the safety of pupils and staff will be paramount and therefore changes will have to be implemented. The intention of this letter is to outline the changes that we will be making in school which follow Government guidance. It is likely that as the autumn term progresses the guidance will change and we hope it will not be too long until some of our school practices can return to normal.

Return to School

Pupils in Years 1 – 6 will return to school on **Thursday 3rd September.**

Children in Nursery and Reception will return to school on **Wednesday 9th September.** Parents of children in these year groups have already been informed and will be receiving additional information about the arrangements for their child's return to school.

It should be noted that from September school attendance is once again **compulsory** for all pupils.

Groupings

Following Department for Education recommendations children will stay in their class 'Bubbles' for the majority of the time and we will try to minimise contact between Bubbles, but there will be times when children have to mix in a wider group.

Drop off and Collection

As we need to maintain social distancing whenever possible for both adults and children we will be operating staggered start and finish times. This system will be in place indefinitely and we will only resume our normal start and end of day procedures when advised that it is safe to do so. We also ask that whenever possible only **one** adult collects your child/ family from school. Your child will be dropped off and collected from the school gate which is indicated on the table below. Members of staff will be present at the end of the day to show you where to wait for your child. We also ask that once you have collected your child you quickly leave the school grounds in order to make space for the next group of parents coming to collect their children. In order for this to work it is important that you arrive at school at your designated time.

If you have more than one child please drop off and collect all your children at the earliest time given for your family. If your child is in Year 2 and you have other children who should be

using the Arlington Avenue entrance please drop off and pick up both children from the Mossley Avenue/ Nursery gate.

As advised we will no longer be taking the temperature of children as they enter the school grounds and children will be directed straight to their classrooms.

Year Group	Entrance/ Exit	Drop Off	Pick up
Year 2	Mossley Avenue/ Nursery	8:40am	3:00pm
Year 5	Arlington Avenue (gate nearest Nicander Road)	8:40am	3:00pm
Year 1	Arlington Avenue (gate nearest Nicander Road)	8:50am	3:10pm
Year 3	Arlington Avenue (gate nearest Greenbank Road)	8:50am	3:10pm
Year 4	Arlington Avenue (gate nearest Greenbank Road)	9:00am	3:20pm
Year 6	Arlington Avenue (gate nearest Nicander Road)	9:00am	3:20pm

We would encourage all our families to walk or cycle to school, if it is necessary for you to travel by car we would ask that you park well away from both Mossley Avenue and Arlington Avenue to enable families to maintain safe social distancing in the vicinity of the school.

Breakfast and After School Club

Our Breakfast and After School Club will re-open on **Monday 7th September**. To begin with Breakfast Club will open at 8am and the After School club will finish at 5pm. Unfortunately we will have to limit places initially and priority given to working parents and families who are up to date with their payments. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis for parents meeting the criteria. If you wish to book a place you can do so from Tuesday 1st September when all parents will receive an email which contains a link to request your place.

Uniform

All children will be expected to wear full uniform and will continue to come to school in their P.E. kit on the days they have P.E.

Equipment

As always we will provide all stationery needed by pupils. We ask that children do not bring school bags or other unnecessary equipment into school. At the present time we are asking that all parents provide their child with a named water bottle to bring to school. The children will be asked to take these home at the end of each day to be cleaned.

Classrooms

Where possible classrooms have been arranged with desks facing forward and all unnecessary furniture and equipment removed to make additional space.

Break and Lunchtimes

Both break and lunchtimes will be staggered and the playgrounds zoned so we can keep class and year group Bubbles distanced. At lunchtime there will be a limited number of Bubbles in the hall at any one time. Children with packed lunches will not necessarily eat in the hall, but will remain with other children in their Bubble.

We will be resuming our normal catering arrangements and payments for school dinners can be made through ParentPay in the usual way.

Communication with School

It is very important that we limit visitors into school. We ask that if you need to communicate with school you do so by email or telephone.

After School Clubs



In the current circumstances we will not be offering any after school clubs for at least the first half term.

Teaching and the Curriculum

We recognise the concerns that parents and carers have about the impact the school closure has had on both their child's education and well-being. We also share your concerns and would like to reassure you that we have given great consideration as to how best we can support the children with their learning and help them to acclimatise to being back in the school environment. Teaching will be tailored to the needs of the pupils, providing additional support where needed, but also building on from the additional knowledge some pupils have gained in different subjects during lockdown. Following Government guidance when we return in September we will be making some adjustments to our curriculum taking into account the circumstances of the last few months. Initially we will be focusing on teaching Maths and English, and teaching cross-curricular project across the school. We also have a programme for Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) which we will be delivering and we will be providing the children more opportunities for outdoor learning. After this transition phase we will resume the teaching of the full curriculum.

Assemblies

Although we will not be able to bring large groups of pupils together in the school hall we will continue to have assemblies which will be led remotely.

Free School Meals

If your circumstances change during the school holiday and you think your child is eligible for free school meals you can apply using the link below. If you are eligible you will receive notification confirming this and will be sent vouchers by Liverpool City Council on a fortnightly basis.

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/communities-and-safety/emergency-planning/coronavirus/schools-and-education/free-school-meal-vouchers/>

Health and Safety

Ensuring the health and safety of our pupils and staff will be a priority and there are a number of measures we are putting into place.

To minimise the risk of catching COVID-19 enhanced hygiene and cleaning practices will continue:

- Regular handwashing will happen throughout the day;
- Surfaces that are being touched and equipment that is being used will be wiped down throughout the day;
- 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' will be our approach to blowing noses and catching coughs and sneezes;
- Contact between Bubbles will be minimised and we will maintain social distancing where possible;
- Only essential visitors will be allowed onto the school site and they will have to adhere to our health and safety procedures.

If your child is sick and unable to attend school, please notify school as usual on the first day of absence.

Procedures to follow if your child or a member of your family is displaying symptoms of COVID-19

If any member of your household displays COVID-19 symptoms you must **keep your child off and inform school**. You must also arrange for a test through **NHS Test and Trace** and notify us of the outcome. Should a member of our school community test positive for COVID-19 we will contact our local Public Health Team and manage the situation in accordance with the most up-to-date advice.

Six months ago we could never have imagined how the rest of the school year would play out. Back in March we reeled from the shock that Greenbank would be closing and our school community would not be together again this academic year. Events over the last four months have shown us just how resilient and adaptable the pupils, families and staff have been. Our greatest sadness today is that we have not been able to say 'Goodbye' to our Year 6 children and mark the occasion as we would usually do. As well as saying goodbye to individuals we are also saying goodbye to families who we have known for a long time. We would like to wish our Year 6 and other pupils who are leaving our school the very best of luck for the future. We hope it will not be too long until life returns to normal and we can see you again.

Year 6 you will be missed but never forgotten.

On behalf of all the staff at Greenbank I would like to wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to September when our school can once again be back together.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Wrigley
Headteacher



We're working towards Artsmark Awarded by Arts Council England

