



## Grove House Infant and Nursery School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to your child starting school with us week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> September and this letter will outline all the necessary measures and arrangements we have put in place to enable this to happen. Some parents may be feeling very anxious about their child's return to school and it is very important that everybody follows the guidance in this letter so we can keep each other safe.

We understand that children may be anxious too and we will address this within our bubbles as the need arises. Children will be given the opportunity to talk about their feelings and worries.

### Bubbles

All children and staff are assigned to bubbles and these bubbles will be separated within the school. In our school we will have four bubbles – Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Bubbles will not mix at all during the school day.

There will be changes within the classroom environment to limit the amount of face-to-face contact and regular handwashing throughout the school day, as well as regular cleaning of the equipment and environment.

### Hygiene

Children will wash their hands thoroughly (with soap and water) or use alcohol-based hand sanitiser gel often. Everyone will wash their hands on arrival at school, before eating, after coughing or sneezing, after visiting the toilet, after being outside and before going home.

We will promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach when sneezing.

Children will be encouraged not to touch their eyes, nose or mouth if they haven't washed their hands.

### Health

- We will ask parents about their child's health on arrival at school. If they have any symptoms you will be asked to take them home.
- Please ensure that your child does not come into school if they have symptoms, have tested positive in the last 7 days or have been asked to self-isolate by NHS Test & Trace. Please report your child's absence in the usual way (by phoning the school office).
- If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell, they will be sent home. They must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should arrange to be tested. Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.
- If a symptomatic child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to another room where they will be looked after by a member of staff while they wait to be collected.



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- Staff will wear personal protective equipment if they are looking after a symptomatic child or dealing with a child requiring first aid who they need to be in close contact with.
- Staff will go home immediately if they become ill at work with symptoms.
- We will advise you if someone develops symptoms in your child's bubble or has tested positive, and will let you know what you need to do next.

### **Drop Off / Pick Up Arrangements during Transition Days (Mon 7<sup>th</sup>, Tues 8<sup>th</sup>, Wed 9<sup>th</sup> and Thur 10<sup>th</sup> Sept)**

For the safety of all children in our bubbles it is important that children arrive at school at the correct time and are waiting at the correct gate.

In previous correspondence your child should have been allocated two morning sessions over these four mornings. If you are unsure of your sessions please contact the school office.

Drop Off / Pick Up times are as follows:

**Morning Session:** Drop off 9.00am at main gate / Pick up 12 noon at main gate

During these two sessions you may come through the school gate with your child to see where your child will be based. Unfortunately, we cannot allow you into the classroom and we do ask that you adhere to social distancing at all times. If you do need to bring younger children with you please keep them with you. We also ask that only one parent accompanies their child through the gate.

### **Drop Off / Pick Up Arrangements from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September (all children are in every morning)**

Drop Off / Pick Up times are as follows:

**Drop off:** 9.00am at main gate

**Pick up:** 12.00 noon at main gate

We are sorry but from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September parents will not be allowed on school premises and will need to leave their children at the gate where they will be welcomed by an adult from their bubble.

Whilst waiting to go into school your child and their siblings must stay with you at all times. For their own safety and the safety of others, please do not allow them to run around the carpark.

Only members of a single household should travel together to and from school. It is essential that people continue to socially distance at all times, avoid gathering in groups and leave the premises as soon as possible.

Please note that the back gate will remain locked and will not be an access point into school (sorry for any inconvenience).

### **What can my child bring to school?**

It is very important that we limit the number of things that come in from home. Therefore, we ask that only these items come into school. No toys should be brought into school.

- Coat
- Sunhat (if required)
- Filled water bottle
- Small bag containing a change of clothes

**Uniform**

School uniform should be worn every day. There is no requirement for clothes to be washed daily, your normal washing routine is fine. Please ensure that your child has their school sweatshirt/cardigan with them every day as windows will be open in classrooms to aid ventilation and it may get a little chilly.

**Communicating with School Staff**

If you need to speak to a member of staff please phone or email the school office. We will ensure that the most appropriate member of staff responds to your query.

We realise that this is a long letter with lots of information in it but hopefully it answers all of your questions. However, if you have any further questions please contact the school office by phone or email before the end of term.

Over the summer holiday please keep checking your emails and messages as we may issue further information regarding our return, if changes need to be made.

We hope you all have a wonderful summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you and your child in September.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sarah Charman  
Executive Headteacher