

## Important information regarding re-opening of schools in September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers of ALL pupils,

I am delighted that I can write to you all with some important information regarding school plans for September. As announced last week by the Education Secretary the removal of bubbles and staggering of the school stay will stop at the end of this term and it is hoped we can then get back to some kind of normality after 2 academic years that have been decimated by the pandemic. Within this letter it contains crucial information regarding the start and finish times of the school day and any plans we have for clubs, breakfast club, intervention programmes etc. Please feel free to come back to me if you have any questions.

### **The School Day – Start & Finish Times**

I know that many of you have expressed your preference for a staggered start and finish time, mainly because of parking and the quieter and calmer school feels. However from September we will be going back to a normal timetable with just a few adjustments. I have set these out on a separate page for you to view. The main reason for this is due to the amount of lost time we have had during the Covid-19 pandemic and staggering start and finish times. Even though some children arrive in school at 8.30am at the moment, full class learning doesn't start until all children are in at 9.30am. In the afternoons some children are leaving classes as early as 3pm whilst others are staying until 4pm, it just means we lose so much time.

I'm hoping you will agree with me that the biggest priority next year is that we maximise our time to get the most teaching and learning in school, which is why I am asking governors next week to approve a slightly longer day than we had previously. The timetable at the end of this letter hopefully makes it clear for you all.

### **Early Start & Breakfast Clubs**

There has been a lot of discussion about school running a breakfast club for as many families as possible. I don't have capacity or space to do this and we have an organisation next door, Ash Tree Nursery who already do this. We will be going back to running an **INVITE ONLY** Breakfast Club which is for identified families or children that we have decided to support. This is at my discretion and is not open to all families and only limited to 25 spaces. School will inform parents / carers if their child has a space.

### **Early Drop –Off Available**

As a way to support some of our working families I am providing the opportunity for an early drop off for their children. The school day for ALL pupils will start when the gates open at 8.40am however there is an early drop off available at 8.20am. I am also offering the same opportunity for parents of children in Y6 and their siblings. This is because we want to start all lessons in Year 6 at 8.30am, half an hour before the rest of school. This is exactly as it says, it will be a drop off at the gate, no parents or carers will be able to come into school and the gate will be supervised. It is only available for the following families:

- ***Children in Y6 classes – Triton & Hyperion and their siblings***
- ***Any working parents whose employer has emailed a letter of proof to myself.***

All other families will be dropping off between 8.40 – 9am as we did prior to the Covid-19 outbreak. Gates will not open before 8.40am and I'd appreciate people staggering their arrival as much as possible.

For our working families I will require the following if you are planning to do the early drop off:

A written letter from your employer stating your job role and working hours and a reason why you need the early drop off. I will be contacting employers to clarify this. This must be sent to my email address please: [head@deepointprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@deepointprimary.cheshire.sch.uk); Apologies if I sound quite blunt about this but I don't want the kind offer being used and abused, I want it to be used by the people that need it.

### **Nursery Start & Finish Times**

**Nursery parents:** Please note that for our Nursery children, if you are doing morning sessions you will arrive at 8.45 until 11.45am and for afternoon sessions you will arrive at 12.15pm and be collected at 3.15pm. For children doing all day you will be dropped off at 8.30am and collected at 3.15pm.

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

In September we will be back to normal. The expectation is that ALL children will wear full school uniform apart from the day that they are doing PE or an after school sports club, the children can then arrive in school in PE kit. Please note that shoes must be worn with uniform and not trainers. Children can bring back packs, lunch bags and book bags as they had done previously. We would still like parents to provide a drinks bottle for their child on a daily basis. We will fill them during and throughout the day.

### **Break and Lunchtimes**

Break and lunch times will no longer be split into zones and the children will be able to access all areas of the outside play space. We have staggered lunch times slightly but a large number of children will be out together at the same time. This will be staffed and supervised daily.

### **Bagel Bus**

The Bagel Bus will be back in operation next year and children can come in from 8.40am and collect a bagel before heading into class. Children arriving for the early drop off at 8.20am will be outside with members of staff and will be able to collect a bagel anytime from 8.30 onwards. Year 6's we will make sure you can have a bagel before learning starts!

### **After School Clubs & After School Tuition**

There are 2 very different things that your child may well be asked to attend.

**After School Clubs** – any club that is run by an adult that relate to PE, Sport, Arts, Crafts, Singing, basically hobbies and interests. These finish at different times. In Nursery and Reception these will finish at 4pm; in Years 1, 2 & 3 they finish at 4.15pm and in Years 5 & 6 they finish at 4.30pm. Siblings can be collected at the same time to make life easier.

**After School Tuition** – these are linked to academic subjects like Reading, Writing or Maths. If your child is selected to attend one of these, it is likely to be an intensive programme for 3 evenings a week (Mon – Wed) for up to 4 – 6 weeks. These will only be happening in Years 1 – 6. In Years 1, 2 & 3 they will finish at 4pm and in Years 4, 5 & 6 they will finish at 4.15pm. Again we can be flexible with the collecting of siblings.

### **Arriving at school**

There is no plan to operate a one way system in school from September but I am yet to make a decision on the wearing of masks. I will inform you of this during the Summer when I have had time to see the impact of the lifting of restrictions. The early drop off at 8.20am is likely to be at the far gate in the car park, next to the bagel bus where there is a sign for 'community access' I am hoping to get this marked appropriately in the summer. Parents and

carers will be able to access any of the entrance gates and not just the one we have been using for the one way system.

### **Dropping off & Collecting**

This is the part where people need to be responsible and patient and it is probably the one greatest frustration. You are going to have to get used to there being 400+ children being dropped off and collected at a similar time. The far car park, which I don't have to provide, but do to try and support families, only has approximately 20 spaces. If you don't get in the car park then you will need to park away from the school, like parents have to in every school, including my own children and walk in. Please do not park on the zig zag lines outside school or come into the main entrance unless this has been agreed with myself. There are a number of ways that we can reduce the amount of people and traffic.

1. Please don't arrive early and hang around the gates. The gates will never be open before 8.40am unless it is very poor weather. Children who are being dropped early must be dropped between 8.20 – 8.30, no later than this please.
2. Stagger arrival times. Please don't all feel the need to get here at 8.40am. It isn't a competition and there are no prizes. As long as children arrive before 9am they are not late for school.
3. Drop children at the gate rather than coming in yourself. Or drop in the car park and a member of staff will send the children in. This means we reduce the number of people waiting and the children can just come in and you can leave.
4. Plan what after school activities your child or children are doing. Where possible try and get siblings doing something on the same night so you are making one pick up.

### **Parents and Carers coming into classrooms**

From September we will still not be allowing parents and carers to come into the classroom with their children. We will treat this on a case by case basis. If a child in Reception or Nursery is upset and we feel it is important for the parent or carer to come in then we will allow this. If you need to speak to a teacher or teaching assistant urgently then we will allow this too. For anything else the teacher will meet you at the door and if necessary will arrange an appointment to meet with you at a time that is convenient for both. No parents or carers will be coming upstairs to Key Stage 2 at this moment in time. I will review this as the term starts and make any changes I deem necessary.

### **Final Thoughts**

Apologies if some of this letter appears obvious, I am just trying to point out the main changes at this time. It's important you know what is happening. Clubs and interventions are likely to start in the first full week back at school but we will give you all that detail on the first 2 days back in September. Please don't forget the children start back on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Please take care of yourselves over the Summer. You can always email me if you have any questions or concerns: [head@deepointprimary.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@deepointprimary.cheshire.sch.uk);

I am really excited to get some normality back, we have so much to do and so much fun to have!!

Kind regards



Dave Williams (Headteacher)

# Organisation of the School Day

September 2021

	Nursery	Reception	Y1/Y2/Y3	Y4/Y5	Year 6	Pandora	Atlas
*Arrival time	8.45	8.40 – 9.00	8.40 – 9.00	8.40 – 9.00	8.20 – 8.30	8.30 – 8.45	8.40 – 9.00
Break time	As required in the EYFS outdoor area	As required in the EYFS outdoor area	11 – 11.15	11.15 – 11.30	11.15 – 11.30	As required in the EYFS outdoor area	11.15 – 11.30
Lunch time	11.45 – 12.15 Small Hall Morning Nursery finishes at 11.45am Afternoon Nursery starts at 12.15pm	12 – 12.15 Main Hall 12.15 – 12.45 Playground	12.15 – 12.30 Main Hall 12.30 – 1.00 Playground	12.30 – 12.45 Small & Main Hall 12.45 – 1.15 Playground	12.30 – 12.45 Small & Main Hall 12.45 – 1.15 Playground	11.45 -12.15 Small 12.15 – 12.45 Playground / EYFS outdoor area	12.30 – 12.45 Small & Main Hall 12.45 – 1.15 Playground
Home time	3.15 Nursery exit	3.25 Classroom door exits	3.25 Classroom door exits Y3 – main hall	3.30 Y4 exit	3.30 Y5/6 exit	3 – 3.15pm Pandora exit	3.30 Main Entrance
After School Clubs	Finish at 4pm	Finish at 4pm	Finish at 4.15pm	Finish at 4.30pm	Finish at 4.30pm	Finish at 4pm	Finish at 4pm
After School Tuition	-	-	Finish at 4pm	Finish at 4.15pm	Finish at 4.15pm	-	-