



Tuesday 1st September 2020

RE: Welcome back 7th September 2020

Assalamu Alaykum Wa Rahmatullah Wa Barakatuh.

Dear Families,

We hope you and your children have had a good Summer break and that you are ready to join us back this September.

Firstly, thank you for all your support and patience over the last 5 months. It is difficult to believe how much life has had to change but we have learned that we are truly a wonderful school community with your children at the heart of it.

It is understandable that returning to school following the events of 2020 will cause some anxiety, so we have outlined some of the key information and measures in place for you. All the measures in place comply with the most recent government guidance sent to schools.

Please read this letter very carefully and take time to work through the information included as although there are strict controls in place, our aim is to make school as normal and enjoyable as it should be for our pupils.

School Opening

School opens for all primary pupils on Monday 7th September at 8.30am.

Reception

Reception children begin on **Monday 7th September at 8.30am and finish at 11.30am for the first week.**
Week beginning **Monday 14th September they start full time 8.30am-3.10pm.**

Nursery

New nursery children will have been contacted by staff to arrange a home visit by the end of Friday 4th September 2020 for week commencing Monday 7th September 2020 and will begin settling in sessions arranged for week commencing Monday 14th September.

Home visits will be carried out by staff wearing PPE and will last no longer than 20 minutes during this time we ask that social distance is maintained. Where there maybe cases of vulnerable people who maybe shielding in the household we can arrange for a virtual meeting on Zoom, please speak to staff member when arranging a meeting about your requirements.

Illness

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home and advised to follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID- 19) infection', which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).



If they have tested positive whilst not experiencing symptoms but develop symptoms during the isolation period, they should restart the 10-day isolation period from the day they develop symptoms. Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

Handwashing and hygiene

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an easy virus to kill when it is on skin. This can be done with soap and running water or hand sanitiser. We will ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly, including when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating. Regular and thorough hand cleaning is going to be needed for the foreseeable future.

We will also be positioning hand sanitiser stations at each entrance and ask that all parents, children, staff and visitors use these before entering our site to keep it as safe as possible. The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important, so we will promote it daily, clearly display guidance images and ensure that there are enough tissues and bins available in the school to support pupils and staff to follow this routine.

Enhanced cleaning

We have put together a cleaning schedule that ensures:

- more frequent cleaning of rooms and shared areas that are used by different groups
- frequently touched surfaces are cleaned more often than normal
- toilets will be cleaned regularly, and pupils will be encouraged to clean their hands thoroughly after using the toilet.

Groups / Bubbles

The government guidance recognises the difficulties younger children will have in adhering to maintained social distancing and so suggests the emphasis for primary settings to be on creating separate groups.

As a small school we are quite fortunate enough to have small class sizes and so will be able to manage smaller groups much more easily.

Classrooms

Pupils will inevitably be facing each other during social times as it is already recognised that social distancing is hard for our young pupils to maintain. Planned seating does, however, serve as a reminder to be more mindful of distance and develop an awareness of surroundings. Therefore, as previously stated, we will endeavour to seat key stage one and key stage two pupils in front facing positions; where this is not possible, we will ensure sensible distance between seats.

Soft furnishings have now been limited. We do wish to provide comfort in our reading areas, but any cushions will be washed frequently and rotated. They will have their own individual pencils and rulers. Shared equipment will be regularly cleaned and kept within each group.

Masks & PPE

The government has stated that no staff or pupils in primary settings should wear masks while in school. If your child is wearing a mask to school, we ask that it is removed before entering the site and returns home with the parent. Frequent touching / messing of masks by the



pupils themselves or others works against respiratory hygiene measures and could increase the risk of transmission and therefore should be avoided.

Standard PPE will be used when dealing with sickness and toileting accidents (gloves and aprons).

Where a pupil is showing symptoms of COVID19 full PPE will be worn by the adult supporting them and strict distancing measures followed.

Events

The use of shared spaces will be limited and restricted to one group at a time with thorough cleaning in between uses.

There will be no trips for the first term pending further advice.

Visitors

Any visitors on site must be pre-arranged with the school.

Visitors must adhere to handwashing/sanitising requests, wear masks and follow signage around the school and site.

Visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Communication

Face to face personal meetings will not be possible at the moment due to restrictions on who can enter the building. Please be mindful of this when dropping children off or collecting them as parents cannot be invited in for conversations with the teacher. Please call the school office or email if you wish to have a conversation with class teachers or senior staff and phone appointments or Zoom meetings will be arranged swiftly.

As usual, concerns and conversations and reporting of absences MUST go through the school office via phone or email.

Collection & Drop Off Arrangements

We ask all parents to follow social distancing guidelines on our site and to use the hand sanitiser stations around entrances. Please support us with this; we need to be good role models for the children and staff need to focus on the pupils - not dispersing groups of adults.

Pupils must be dropped off and collected by a parent or approved adult. Children should not be collected or brought to school by siblings under 16.

We ask that only one adult brings or collects each pupil to minimise how many adults are in close proximity and that you stand and wait with 2 metres distance between you and other families.

Attendance & Punctuality

All pupils will be required to attend school every day and arrive on time; even during these unusual times.

Lateness and poor attendance will be addressed in line with our attendance and safeguarding procedures.

We hope you can continue to support us in ensuring the children have a safe and happy return to school.

Jazak Allah Khair

Al Khair Primary

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Primary school



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