

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope this letter finds you all in good health. It has been wonderful to see so many children back in school, engaging in various learning activities. I am delighted to say everyone looks happy and well.

As you're probably aware, the government has announced that schools should fully reopen from the start of the upcoming autumn term. They've decided this on the basis of:

- › The prevalence of coronavirus decreasing
- › The new NHS test and trace system being in place
- › More clarity about the measures that need to be in place to create safe environments in schools
- › Time out of school being detrimental to children's development
- › The low risk to children of becoming severely ill from coronavirus

This means we're planning to open to all of our primary-aged pupils in September. Mrs Howe is sending a separate letter to our Reception and Little Owls families outlining the arrangements for their return which will be more phased in consideration of the age of the children. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 8th September, and we're working hard to make the school a safe, enjoyable environment.

We wanted to get in touch to explain what you can expect from us and what we will expect from all of our parents and carers.

Attendance

Attendance will be mandatory in September, as the government expects all pupils to attend school. The usual rules will apply, meaning we'll be recording attendance and following up on any absences.

If your children have been staying at home due to the current shielding guidance, the government is due to pause this guidance on 1 August if there's a continued decline in coronavirus transmission rates. That means they should be able to come back to school in September.

However, if you've received clinical or public health advice that your children should still remain at home, please let us know and continue to follow that guidance. We will be offering remote education to these pupils.

Safety measures

At a meeting of the Full Governing Board on 13th July, governors agreed to the risk assessment and action plan for our school in September, and to the changes in the start and end of the school day. When your children come into school, we'll have the following protective measures in place:

› Procedures for going to and from school

Parents and pupils are encouraged to walk to school where possible. For September we have no choice but to continue to implement staggered drop-off and collection times which have been in place since June to adhere to the guidance for schools. We appreciate that some parents with siblings will have different arrival and pick-up times; being collected early because of siblings is quite disruptive to the children's learning, as they may be collected before a lesson has actually ended. So, for siblings, you may drop-off at the earliest time and collect at the latest time. If you are able to collect siblings at the end of their bubble's time and wait for the older sibling that would be appreciated as it will mean that the staff can begin the end of day additional cleaning of toys and equipment which is required. If you are unable to wait, your child will remain in their bubble until the eldest sibling has finished.

Drop off and Pick up times

Year Groups (Bubbles)	Drop off time	Pick up time
Little Owls	9.00	12.00 or 3.00 depending on hours
Class 1 - EYFS	9.00	3.00
Class 2 – Y1, Y2, Y3 & Y4	8.50	3.10
Class 3 – Y5 & Y6	8.40	3.20

Please park at a safe distance from the school (we hope that the Blackwell Ox car park will be open for parents to use) and walk to the back of school via the Village Hall using the marked area of the car park to wait to hand over or collect your child. Please do not park at the front of school or the neighbouring properties (Fox & Hounds and St. Botolph's Quest) this is a right of way and access road for emergency vehicles.

› Rules on what pupils can take to and from school

Please keep equipment brought to school to a minimum i.e. a book bag, insulated lunch bag (if bringing own lunch), filled water bottle and drawstring shoe-bag for PE days. These items must not be shared with others and must be taken home for cleaning each day. Uneaten food and empty containers/packaging will be left in lunch bags for disposal at home.

Every child will be issued with a new pencil case and their own tray for work with all the necessary equipment in it. Please keep the pencil cases and contents which we sent home to use for homework. Personal items must not be brought into school.

Each child will also have a new home-school planner which should be kept in their book bag and used daily as a means of communication between home and school.

We would be interested to see work which the children did during the lockdown, this should be placed in a clear plastic bag and handed in for isolation storage before teachers handle it. The work will not be marked.

› How pupils will be kept safe in school

Much of the guidance is unchanged in relation to reducing contact between bubbles, social distancing (where possible) and good hand and respiratory hygiene. The children and classroom staff will operate in 4 distinct bubbles (see table above) with changes to timetables allowing separate playtimes and lunchtimes (see table below).

Regular handwashing with soap and water throughout the day starting as soon as staff and children arrive in the morning. Handwashing facilities are available in every classroom. Hand sanitizer is available at each entry into the building for visitors.

Each classroom and area within school has a fully stocked first aid kit. All staff have received updated first aid training and either class teacher or teaching assistant will deal with first aid within each classroom area where possible – for examples cuts, scrapes, nose bleeds, head bumps etc. Serious injuries will be dealt with in the admin area.

Staff are already well practiced in managing a routine of cleaning resources and areas after use. Regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (tables, handles, equipment etc) will continue to be carried out throughout the day in addition to the daily thorough cleaning after school.

Visitors to school will continue to be by appointment only; we are sorry but parents will not be able to come onto the school site except by appointment.

› How we will make sure pupils are aware of the rules

The children have responded well to the new procedures in school. Staff have taken time to explain what is expected and how to follow the rules which allow them to stay safe in their bubbles without feeling restricted. We will help those who have not been attending school to settle quickly into their new routines in ways which support them. Leaders have written an addendum to the Behaviour Policy which will be available on our website soon.

› Any changes to uniform or school meals

Pupils will wear full school uniform; a reminder of the requirements was sent to all families last week.

On PE days we will ask pupils to come to school in their PE kit. For the younger children this will reduce close contact needed to help them get changed, and for the older ones, it is due to space limitations.

No class will have PE on the first day and we will issue the PE timetable at the start of term.

We will be spending more time outdoors than usual. In the case of hot weather, sun cream needs to be applied before coming into school and children should bring a hat. It will be very useful if all children could have a raincoat which remains in school.

School meals will be available as usual. We would encourage all families to consider their child has a healthy, freshly prepared school lunch. Please ask the school office for details of help with the cost of school meals if your circumstances have changed admin@carltonfaceby.n-yorks.sch.uk, it is always worth applying.

› Breakfast Club and Afterschool Activities

We are pleased to say that we will be able to offer Breakfast Club in September. This will be available from 7.45am and must be booked in advance. Details and costs will be sent separately. We would appreciate a response from parents who expect to want to access this service, letting us know before summer what you expect to require in September. This will enable us to have staff and rooms prepared.

Afterschool Activities and Clubs **will not** be running until everyone is settled back into school. We will give more information at the beginning of term.

➤ How we will respond if a pupil or staff member develops symptoms at school

Parents must remain contactable at all times so that if their child develops symptoms of COVID-19 they can collect them as soon as possible, without delay, to reduce the risk to other pupils and staff.

If a child or adult who works in school receives a positive COVID-19 test result, then we will strictly follow government guidelines. The guidance states the following:

Schools must take swift action when they become aware that someone who has attended has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). Schools should contact the local health protection team. This team will also contact schools directly if they become aware that someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) attended the school – as identified by NHS Test and Trace. The health protection team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate. The health protection team will work with schools in this situation to guide them through the actions they need to take. Based on the advice from the health protection team, schools must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious.

Close contact means:

direct close contacts - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)

proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person.

Communicating about cases of Covid-19: I am sure you will appreciate that, on any given day, children in school can show symptoms of colds, headaches, fevers and coughs. While we may treat these symptoms as potentially symptoms for Covid-19 and follow our procedures as stated earlier, we will not be able to report every incident to parents as potential cases. Our policy will be to communicate with parents *only* when a test proves positive. This may change if there are extenuating circumstances.

School Day September 2020 – Carlton & Faceby

	Class 3 Y5 and Y6	Class 2 Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4	Class 1 EYFS	Little Owls
Start	8.40am	8.50am	9.00am	9am – 12pm
Session 1	8.40am -10.10am 1hr 30mins	8.50am – 10.25am 1hr 35mins		
Class Worship	10.10 -10.30am 20mins	10.25 -10.45am 20mins		
Break	10.30 -10.45am 15mins	10.45am – 11am 15mins		
Session 2	10.45am -12pm 1hr 15min	11am-12pm 1hr		
Lunch	Outside 12 -12.30pm Inside 12.30-1pm	Inside 12 -12.30pm Outside 12.30-1pm	11.45am	12 – 1pm
Afternoon session	1pm – 3.20pm 2hrs 20mins	1pm -3.10pm 2hr 10mins		1 – 3pm
Depart	3.20pm	3.10pm	3pm	3pm

Please note that the school day for Class 3 (Year 5 and Year 6), has been extended by 20 minutes.

Mrs. Howe will be emailing parents and carers with information specific to early years foundation stage (Little Owls and Reception).

Curriculum

Although there'll need to be some changes to reflect the teaching time that was lost during the lockdown, we'll still be doing our best to provide an ambitious, broad curriculum.

Our current plan is:

- During September, teachers will assess the children in reading, writing and mathematics, to find out if there are any gaps in their knowledge. The information from the assessments will be used to plan lessons
- Remote education has been essential since lockdown. It is likely going to remain an essential component in the delivery of our school's curriculum for some pupils, alongside classroom teaching, or in the case of a local lockdown. The government expect schools to plan and ensure any pupils educated at home for some of the time are given the support they need to master the curriculum and so make good progress. Remote education will continue to be of a high quality and align as closely as possible with our school's provision so that parents can support their child/ren to catch-up and keep-up
- Mrs. Leivers will be joining us (part-time) from September to support catch-up. Mrs. Leivers is an experienced and effective primary school teacher. Mr. Sellers will join us, primarily to teach additional sport to help the children regain their physical agility and stamina. Mr. Sellers is also an experienced and effective primary school teacher, specializing in PE.
- Assessing the children in September will enable teachers to modify the curriculum to meet the needs of individual children. Teaching time will be prioritized to address any significant gaps in childrens' knowledge. We aim to return to our normal curriculum as soon as possible (before summer term 2021)
- Since March, teachers have planned and implemented remote education. We intend to continue our curriculum for remote learning through the school's website and class teachers maintaining communication in the event of local lockdowns or due to individual or groups needing to self-isolate
- Our approach to marking and feedback for remote learning:
From September we will continue to focus on making our children better learners. If online systems allow, feedback on children's work may be possible. This will rely on the teacher's professional judgement to determine how any feedback, including marking, is given. Practice will be guided by the teacher's evaluation of the learning needs of children and the nature of the activity being undertaken.
- We understand that parents would like information regarding after-school clubs but we are not yet in the position to organize extra-curricular provision for the start of term.

Pastoral support

We're aware that the lockdown has been a difficult time for many of us, including our pupils.

We are asking that parents complete our 'Re-admission Form' which will help us to prepare for your child's return so that we are able to support their return to school fully. Please get in touch with your child's class teacher if you need help to do this.

Our current plans to support your children's wellbeing during this time are:

- Our curriculum of additional sport and personal, social, health and citizenship education. On our website you will find information regarding well-being (under the well-being tab) staff are currently updating and refreshing the resources in this section.
- If you are anxious about your child returning to school, please get in touch so that we can support you. Teachers are mindful that, for some children, it will have been many weeks since they have engaged in formal lessons. As ever, we aim to take a personal approach to meet the needs of each child
- Please contact Mrs. Monsarratt (SENCo) or Mrs. McDonald if you wish to discuss your child's special educational needs and their re-entry to school

If you have any questions or concerns about the points we've set out above, please get in touch with the school office to arrange an appointment with a member of staff.

We're extremely grateful for all the support we've received so far from the school community. We'll continue to keep in touch if there are any updates to our plans or if we need to make changes due to new or updated government advice. Many of us will be in school for the first two weeks of the holiday and the final week of the summer holiday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support you have given to your children and our schools and to wish you a happy and healthy summer.

Warm regards

Kathryn McDonald
Executive Headteacher

