



QUEENSWAY SCHOOL

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Friday 10th July 2020

Dear Parents,

Just a brief letter this week as I will write a more in depth one next week to outline plans for September (obviously this is always subject to latest Government Guidance).

The 'meet the teacher appointments' are well under way. We were delighted with the number of families who accessed the new appointment system online, it was approximately 80%. It has been lovely to see children we haven't seen since March and can't wait to have them back in September.

On that note, I want to give some indication what September will look like in school in order to manage parental expectations. Whilst we will be open for all children, we are still required to follow stringent guidelines in order to minimise the risks so therefore there will still be adaptations to our normal provision and practices. The main principle is that we will be operating in **cohort bubbles**. So for example, both Year 1 classes of children and all the staff that work in Year 1 will form a Year 1 cohort bubble. We will limit the number of other people they have close contact with. It will be the same staff who do their break duties, their Breakfast club provision and their teaching. As we are still required to prevent gatherings and mixing of people, each cohort bubble will still be allocated a staggered start and finish time but the number of hours they are at school has to be the same as normal, so if they start 10 minutes later in the morning they will finish 10 minutes later in the afternoon, i.e. we can't cut short their day. Each bubble will have a staggered morning break time and lunch period too. They will have their own cohort resources etc. So as you can see, we won't be back to 'normal' yet! Our absolute priority in all of our planning is the safety and welfare of our children and staff.

We have sent families two questionnaires to complete this week; one about After School Care and one about access to the internet and technology, these are helping to shape our provision in September.

Wrap Around Care: Following feedback from families I am pleased to confirm that we WILL be providing wrap around care from **8am till 6pm** in September. The 4:30pm option has been shelved! I will be writing to you over the coming weeks with details of how to book. There will be new booking systems operating for both Breakfast and After School Club from September.

Breakfast club-

- Breakfast club will start at 8am instead of 7:45am during the covid recovery period due to additional staffing levels that are required and multiple rooms that are needed.
- Breakfast club will not be 'pay as you go' as all sessions will be booked using our current Parent Pay system.
- The club will take place in the classrooms so therefore the menu will be more limited than usual.
- There will be a strict drop off window for breakfast club which will be 8-8:15am.

After School Club-

- Parents will be sent another Form to complete to book your After School needs for the whole of Term 1. This will generate your contract and invoice.
- Children will potentially be grouped into smaller groups rather than altogether in the hall. I will determine this once we have everyone's bookings.
- In absolute emergencies parents can still request ad hoc sessions however, there is a strong chance these might not be accommodated due to staffing levels required when spread across multiple rooms. All parents are encouraged to book in advance.

Parents don't need to do anything yet. We will let you know when the booking process is open and will send you information on how to book. We are going to remove the survey for Wrap Around Care now as the information above supersedes the survey. Thank you for your patience.

The technology survey: this is to inform us how we might deliver remote learning should we have to close a cohort bubble for 14 days if a bubble member tests positive for covid. Sadly, the survey isn't about us providing laptops for everyone! Despite what information is presented in the news, we have not received one laptop yet for our vulnerable families- we are still waiting. The Government are only providing technology at present for families who are defined as 'vulnerable', i.e. a child on a Child Protection Plan or a Child In Need Plan. The survey will help us to find creative solutions to ensure we could deliver a full curriculum remotely from September onwards if needed.

Information for Key Workers and vulnerable families using Queensway childcare: Just a reminder that we are closed over the summer for all children, so no need to email us next week with any childcare requests.

Home learning: Teachers will be posting on the blogs the *final* weekly home learning tasks by today at noon for next week: Class blogs can be found via the class pages on the school website:
<http://www.queensway.oxon.sch.uk/page/?title=Class+Pages&pid=32>

Annual reports: We hope you all find the annual reports informative. Remember; if you need to discuss anything in the reports please ring the office to speak to the class teacher by the end of term.

End of term gifts: We have been inundated with emails from parents asking if it is OK to bring in gifts to give the staff. Of course, this is never expected but if you wish to bring them in, this is fine to do so.

Keep well and stay safe,

Mrs Sarah Horbury-Jakeman
Head Teacher