



Mousehold Infant and Nursery School Mousehold Avenue Norwich NR3 4RS
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Friday 22nd May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As half-term approaches, even though the days all feel the same for many families, enjoy the lovely weather and times together. I think we all need to remember how far we have come in staying a strong community and for that I am very grateful.

After half-term we would like to know at the start of each week how many children we will be looking after. This does not include the children classed as vulnerable who are in every day. If you are planning on bringing your child to school because you are a key worker and have no other childcare then please can you let school know on a Monday for the whole week. This can be via e mail/telephone/or letting us know when you come in on the Monday. This is to ensure we have the right number of staff in. We are currently only providing care for the children who have been identified as vulnerable or key worker children.

Some things to remember if you are bringing your child to school because of the reasons above:

- Please can children not bring their own soft toys to school.
- If you come on a bike, then only one child in the bike shed at a time.
- Only one family in the entry/office area at one time. Please wait outside the door until a family leaves.
- Please do not bring your child to school if they are unwell or a family member is unwell.
- Please don't gather together on the playground when waiting for your child at the end of the day.
- Please don't travel to school in the same car as another family and please avoid walking to school in groups beyond your own family. If you are using public transport to get to school then please be vigilant in either covering your face or other measures.
- As far as possible one parent at a time to bring/collect children.

Parent survey responses.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the parent survey. The closing date and time is 3pm today. We have attached the responses so far. We will use this information when planning ahead. We will send out another survey to you on Friday 5th June when hopefully we all have more information and clarity.

Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Westall Deputy Headteacher: Mr Ian Tolson
Designated safeguarding leads: Mrs Westall, Mr Tolson, Miss Wood



There were some questions raised on the survey and I will aim to answer them the best I can here. Like I said in my letter last week, I don't, as yet, have all of the answers.

Question: Will there be before and after school provision?

Answer: Not initially. We need to focus on the hours in the school day and planning provision for those times. This will be reviewed as often as we can.

Question: I thought Year 1 was a year group coming back first?

Answer: In an infant school the guidance states as follows. However, if we feel this is not possible we will look at introducing Year 1 first. This has not yet been decided.

Each setting's circumstances will be slightly different. If necessary, settings have the flexibility to focus first on continuing to provide places for priority groups and then, to support children's early learning, settings should prioritise groups of children as follows:

- ☐ *early years settings – 3 and 4 year olds followed by younger age groups*
- ☐ *infant schools - nursery (where applicable) and reception*
- ☐ *primary schools – nursery (where applicable), reception and year 1*

Question: I would want the school to concentrate more on social distancing.

Answer: We will put all the measures into place **that are possible** for social distancing, but **we cannot guarantee** that at all times all children will stay 2 metres apart. This is why we aren't opening too early.

Question: Will my child be with their friends?

Answer: We will try to keep children from the same class together in small groups. Whether your child will be with their friends will depend on whether the friends are returning. The groupings will depend on how many children we are planning on welcoming back.

Question: Will there be new routines for the children?

Answer: Yes, there will have to be new routines. There will be lots of changes and we will plan for and manage these as best we can.

Question: How do you check children every day when they come back to school?

Answer: This hasn't been planned yet – much of that depends on directives from Government and what is safe and manageable with young children. There will be handwashing on arrival and we will expect assurances from parents that their child is well.

We will be taking a measured and cautious response to reopening and it will be done with very careful planning with the support of the Trust.

News from the staff:

Mrs Rayner - In my spare time I enjoy a variety of arts and crafts. I've been wanting to create this Green Woman for a long time. I have made my own felt, and used needle-felting to create her face. Each leaf is hand-embroidered. I now plan to start on a Green Man, which will be more ambitious.

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Miss Oliver – My children are having a sunflower growing competition and we've grown some strawberries.

All of the staff say hello and would love to hear from you. This can be via Facebook messenger or the office e mail or phone. A member of staff will always get back to you. If you send photos of your children via the Facebook messenger then you are giving permission for the photo to be shown on the Facebook page. If you send photos to the office e mail we will always ask if you give permission as sometimes you might not want that. It is really important to us that you feel you can share what you have been doing.

It is also ok to let us know if you are struggling. We can help in so many ways.

Thank you for so much positive correspondence. This really does help staff wellbeing and it helps us all move forward together. It's not easy for any of us but together we can get through this.

Please stay safe, take care and keep in touch,

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Rebecca Westall
Headteacher

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