



Mousehold Infant and Nursery School Mousehold Avenue Norwich NR3 4RS
01603 427012 office@mousehold.norfolk.sch.uk www.mouseholdinfants.com

Friday 10th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have said goodbye this week to our Reception and Year 1 children who have been coming in two days a week for the last few weeks. The children have thoroughly enjoyed their time in school and it has been great for families too. We can now look forward to seeing them again in September. Next week we welcome back Nursery and Year 2. We can't wait to see all of those children and it will be good for them to see some of their friends and staff and for Year 2 to finish their time at infant school.

Friday 17th July will be the last day of term for our 3 Key worker and identified vulnerable children bubbles. All of the children in these bubbles have been in school since the main closure. Well done. They have shown great resilience and we are all very proud them.

September 2020

We are putting together a detailed plan of what September will look like for children and staff, following the government's guidance. We would usually communicate any changes to school routines a year in advance but it is not possible this year due to the unprecedented times we find ourselves in and the guidance for September only coming out last week. **Unless there is a change in local or national infection rate of the virus, Mousehold will be open to all children in September.** It is logistically quite complex but we will get there and will communicate this to you as soon as we can. All schools have to have a 'Plan B' in case of local or national lockdown again. Plan B is what we have been doing currently between March and June.

Start date in September

What we can tell you now is that if your child is going to be in **Year 1 or 2** then their first day back will be **Friday 4th September**. Your child's new class teacher will be standing on the playground ready for you and we will help you find the right teacher and the right entrance. The children will line up with their teacher and say goodbye to you on the playground. We started to do this just before schools closed and it worked well. We hope in time we can go back to having parents in school at the start of the day as that will always be our preferred option. If your child is going to be in **Nursery or Reception** you will have received separate letters over the last few weeks letting you know the starting date for your child and stay and play sessions. You will also have booked a home visit through the school office. We will review, at the start of September, whether home visits will be able to take place. If they don't take place in your home, there will be other things we can do in the time slot given to you to support families and preparing your child for school. We will let you know if we won't be visiting you in your home.

Size of bubbles

The guidance states that bubbles (groups) of children can be class size or bigger. Each bubble will be made up from 2 or 3 classes who are next to each other. Nursery will be a bubble on its own. This means that the classes

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



who are in a bubble with another class can share resources, use the shared areas between their classrooms and have lunch and playtime together. Most of the teaching will take place in the child's classroom or outdoor area.

Timings of school day in September

There will be a slightly staggered start and end time to the day for classes who share the same entrance to help us limit the number of families coming into school at the same time but if you have more than one child in school then please don't worry we will only expect you to come to school and collect at one set time. We will give you the information on your child's start and end times to the day next week so you can make your own arrangements where necessary. School will either start at 8.35am or 8.50am and end times will be 2.45pm or 3pm, so not vastly different to now. **It is really important that you try to be on time to school**, not too early and not too late, so that we can manage the number of families coming onto our site at one time. Arriving 5 minutes early is better than 5 minutes late.

Lunches from September

There will be the option of hot dinner, packed lunch from school or home packed lunch. Lunch times will be staggered and the children will eat their lunch in the dinner hall and have time to play outside before or after their lunch. The hot dinner menu will be shared with you beforehand.

Attendance and support in September

The Government has made it clear that school attendance is mandatory from September 2020. At Mousehold we like to support the whole family so please remember to contact us if you are worried about your child returning to school. We can help you and we will do all we can to alleviate any concerns. The children and staff who have been in school throughout this time have felt very safe, nurtured and it has really helped their general wellbeing.

Thank you to our local community

Thank you to **Notcutts Garden Centre** and **Mousehold Garden Centre**. They have donated some plants to improve our outdoor areas around our mobile classroom (the new Kestrel Class). If any of you work for a business who could provide us with plants for our planters near our school office entrance or for other parts of our school grounds and outdoor learning environments then please let us know. We are planning on using our outdoor areas extensively over the next academic year. We will always thank the business on our newsletters and on our website.

I continue to appreciate your understanding and support during this time. Have a lovely weekend and we can all see the Summer holidays in sight.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Rebecca Westall
Headteacher

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

