



Mousehold Infant and Nursery School Mousehold Avenue Norwich NR3 4RS
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Friday 4th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the time of writing this letter we are preparing the school for a full return. We have responded to some individual questions from parents as they have arisen. I will try and include in this letter some answers to some of the questions, for you all to see. I hope it reassures you that we have everything in place to keep your children as safe as we can.

I am very aware that there has been a lot to remember and take on board recently. Please keep asking us questions if you are unsure of anything.

Our school **Facebook Page** was such a strength in the Summer Term and continues to be. We will use it slightly differently to how we were before the summer holidays.

It will be used to:

- Communicate important messages (these will also be e mailed/texted to parents.)
- Links to community events your family might enjoy.
- Links to support for aspects of our school curriculum and how we teach certain aspects of the curriculum.
- Celebration of school community achievements.
- Messages from Mrs Westall and other members of staff.

Please can parents **not** use it for:

- Messaging the school. This needs to be done through the school office so we can guarantee seeing it and responding in a timely manner.
- Please don't send in photos of your child's achievements at home, via Facebook. The system needs to go back to as before. Please show a senior leader on the playground in the morning, show your child's class teacher or e mail the school office.

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



Acorns After School Club

We have been informed by George White Junior school that Acorns after school club will be running again from Monday 7th September. If you would like to book a place for your child please call the office at George White on 01603 425515 for further information. If required registration forms are available from the office at Mousehold Infant and Nursery School.

Support from Norfolk County Council

Norfolk County Council have provided 'Let's Get Back to School' information, advice and resources for parents/carers - check out their webpage www.norfolk.gov.uk.backtoschool

Norfolk Safeguarding Partnership support.

Norfolk Safeguarding Partnership have also created a return to school video aimed at providing practical, honest advice and support. The video is available online: www.JustOneNorfolk.nhs.uk/return-to-school

What we will do if a child becomes unwell in school with covid symptoms.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature
- continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

- The child and supervising member of staff will go to 'The Nest,' - this is a comfortable room in school. The room will be well ventilated.
- A member of office staff will ring the child's parents for the child to be collected as soon as possible. Parents are asked to collect all siblings, no matter which setting they attend and to notify the setting as soon as they are aware of this.
- When the child is collected, information will be given to the parent on how the child can be tested, either with a home test kit provided by the school, or at a test centre. The child and siblings must stay at home until the result of the test comes through.
- The classroom will be cleaned and the rest of the children in the class will be moved into the shared area in their bubble whilst this takes place.
- The school does not need to close if the rooms where the child was can be cleaned without children in there.
- The Nest will be cleaned thoroughly after the ill person has gone home.
- If the test comes back **positive** then appropriate actions will immediately be taken to inform parents and staff of the next steps.
- **Action for close contacts** Close contacts of positive cases must isolate for 14 days. This will probably mean the bubble of children the child is in. The Headteacher will keep parents informed of this. Close contacts will not ordinarily be eligible for testing unless and until they develop symptoms. Where a close contact subsequently develops symptoms and tests

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negative they must continue their 14 day isolation period as they may still have contracted the virus but it was not detected.

- It is not necessary for staff or pupils that briefly came into contact with the affected person to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms themselves or are advised to do so because the contact is considered significant or the affected person subsequently tests positive.
- The bubble system we have in school means that contact will be with a reduced number of children and staff.
- If the test comes back **negative** then the person who was isolating can return to the setting providing that:
 - Their result is negative (and further testing is not required)
 - They are fit to return (due to other illness)
 - They are not isolating as a result of being a close contact
 - Other members of their household do not have symptoms and waiting for test results.
- Parents will be communicated with in a timely manner throughout any time when we are in a situation that children and staff need to isolate.

We are all entering this term and academic year with some uncertainty as to what the future might bring. However, optimism and positivity go such a long way. We can only all do our best as parents, carers and members of staff and no one can ask any more. Let's continue to be a strong community, where support is readily available and communication is open and honest.

I continue to appreciate your understanding, patience and support during this time.

Take care everyone and have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully

Rebecca Westall

Headteacher

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