



## **Thrussington C of E Primary School**

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Headteacher: Mrs Hannah Roddy

# Parent information booklet

# Welcome Back

We are absolutely delighted to be able to welcome our whole school back to Thrussington in September. We know that there will be differences in the way we operate but what we have learnt by having three year groups back full time since June, is that the familiarity of school – the building, their teachers, the learning and their friends has by far outweighed the differences and as a result, the majority of children settled back into school life feeling happy and safe.

The Government guidance explains that, 'Given the improved position, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19)'

We will continue to follow the Government guidance and conduct regular risk assessments. As a result, we have put in place a number of essential measures to keep the children, families and staff safe. These include:

- A requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- Robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- Enhanced cleaning arrangements
- Active engagement with the NHS Test and Trace
- Formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonable practical.

Throughout this booklet, you will read about some of the safety measures and also the impact that this will have on the operations of the school. As you are aware, there are have been and continue to be regular changes so please note that we may have to alter some arrangements if this is the case. There are also still some details that we have been unable to confirm and so, we will continue to update you as we know more.

If you have any questions about September, please get in touch by e-mailing the school office: [contact@thrussington.leics.sch.uk](mailto:contact@thrussington.leics.sch.uk)

## Drop-off and Collection

We will be continuing with staggered start and end times to avoid unnecessary congestion on the school grounds.

Please line up outside the school grounds, the class teacher will meet the children at the second gate (by the cemetery) to lead them in. Parents will not be allowed on site, please ensure that you are punctual at drop off and collection so that we do not mix bubbles.

We start on **Tuesday 1st September**.

| Start/Finish | Monday       | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday  |
|--------------|--------------|---------|-----------|----------|---------|
| 11.50 – 3.15 | BANK HOLIDAY | EYFS    | EYFS      | EYFS     | EYFS    |
| 9.00 – 3.20  |              | Class 1 | Class 1   | Class 1  | Class 1 |
| 8.50 – 3.10  |              | Class 2 | Class 2   | Class 2  | Class 2 |
| 8.40 – 3.00  |              | Class 3 | Class 3   | Class 3  | Class 3 |

Children will enter and exit through their external classroom door (fire exit) so that year groups do not have to mix in corridors.

Where families have more than one child, we ask that all children arrive at the time of the earliest arriving child. Unfortunately, children will be unable to leave until their allocated time at the end of the day.

During Drop-Off and Collection, it will be necessary for all families to follow social distancing measures and ensure that children are dropped off and collected on time. Families should not stay outside the school grounds any longer than is necessary.

Please continue to be mindful of the local residents when parking.

## Attendance

It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible, the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider-development.

Attendance at school is now mandatory for all children and the usual rules on school attendance will apply.

It is a requirement that any children that are unwell remain at home.

## Uniform and Resources

Children are asked to attend in their full uniform, including school shoes.

They will need their PE kit in school every day (indoor and outdoor).

Pencil cases will be provided for each child with the basic equipment that they will be required to use frequently. Children in KS2 can also bring their own pencil cases into school.

Classroom based resources, such as books and games, can now be used and shared within their bubble.

Any equipment (i.e. PE equipment) being used between bubbles, will be cleaned after use or rotated to allow them to be left unused for a period of 48-72 hours.

Each year group will have their own outdoor play equipment box.

## 'Bubbles'

We will continue to have 'bubbles' within school. This is because maintaining distinct groups or 'bubbles' that do not mix makes it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may need to self-isolate, and keep that number as small as possible.

We will be reintroducing full class sizes and at Thrussington, each class will form a 'bubble'.

The Government recommends that where social distancing will not be possible (i.e. in a class of 30), schools should try to minimise contact with other groups of children. By operating with each year group as their own bubble, we will be minimising contact with other children across the school.

The Government recognise 'that younger children will not be able to maintain social distancing, and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group'.

Assemblies will be streamed live into classrooms using Microsoft TEAMS.

All classrooms will be arranged with forward facing desks apart from EYFS where the time spent working formally at desks is minimal. Children in EYFS will sit forward facing on the carpet.

Any unnecessary furniture will be removed to create more space in the classroom.

Where necessary, to deliver a full curriculum, teachers and other staff may operate across different classes.

## Movement Around School

We will continue to keep movement around school to a minimum.

While passing briefly in the corridor or playground is low risk, we will avoid busy corridors, entrances and exits.

Children will use the toilets in their classroom or corridor. It is no longer necessary for children to have their own designated toilets.

## Hand and Respiratory Hygiene

Regular and thorough hand cleaning is going to be needed for the foreseeable future.

All children will wash their hands regularly throughout the school day, including:

- Arrival at school

- Before they leave school

- At the start and end of break times.

- At the start and end of lunchtimes

- Wherever necessary throughout the day.

Additionally, there will always be access within the classroom to hand sanitiser.

School will continue to follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to respiratory hygiene.

There will be a plentiful supply of tissues in every classroom and lidded bins to dispose of these safely.

## PPE

We know that this is a very worrying time and you will want to protect your child from the virus but we are following the government guidance that states

"Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended... Face coverings (or any form of medical mask where instructed to be used for specific clinical reasons) should not be worn in any circumstance by those who may not be able to handle them as directed (for example, young children, or those with special educational needs or disabilities) as it may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission."

**Staff and children will therefore not be wearing face masks in school.**

## Break Times and Lunchtimes

School will be serving a 'grab box' style lunch. School lunches will need to be pre-ordered with Mrs Feasey

KS1 children will continue to receive universal free school meals and those in KS2 who receive free school meals.

Year Group bubbles will be allocated their own area of the playground/field at break times and lunchtimes and will eat together as a bubble.

Children can still bring in their own packed lunch if they wish.

Each 'bubble' will be provided with their own box of play equipment.

## Wellbeing

As a school, we want to support the children both academically and emotionally.

We will:

- support the rebuilding of friendships and social engagement
- address and equip children to respond to issues linked to coronavirus (COVID-19)
- support children with approaches to improving their physical and mental wellbeing

We will be working with you and your child to settle them back into the school routines; we want them to continue to feel safe and happy at school. One way we can do this is by ensuring that they have familiarity and consistency. We don't want them to feel like school is vastly 'different' than it was before or have to readjust to a different way of doing things.

We have always considered the wellbeing of our children on an individual basis and we will continue to do this when they return. There is not a 'one-size-fits-all' approach. Every child's circumstances are different and their experiences during this pandemic could be very different to the child sat beside them in class.

We will continue to provide frequent personal, social, health education (PSHE)

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

We are still to confirm clubs for the next term. These will be minimal and involve one bubble per club.

On a Thursday after school we have booked the Educ8 coaches who will provide football/sports clubs for Years 3/4 3:15—4:15 and Years 5/6 4:25-5:25pm There will be a charge for this and more details will follow.

Peripatetic music lessons will continue as soon as we are able to do this safely and adhering to government guidance. We will let individual families know about this when we are able.

## Wrap Around Care

We will be opening up our wrap around care from 1st September.

Please email [contact@thrussington.leics.sch.uk](mailto:contact@thrussington.leics.sch.uk) or complete the [form](#) to book a place. A contract will then be sent for you to complete before your child starts.

Breakfast club — 7:45—8:45 am

After school club -Session 1 —15 :15—16:30

Session 2—15:15—17:30

Session 3— 16:30—17:30

## Contacting School

In the first instance, parents should try to speak with their child's teacher if they need to discuss anything but if this is not possible, please call or e-mail the school.

You can send an e-mail to [contact@thrussington.leics.sch.uk](mailto:contact@thrussington.leics.sch.uk) or the class email address .This will always be sent on to the class teacher.

Parents can only come into the school building if they have an appointment.

## Remote Learning

Whilst we have planned for all children to return to Thrussington in September, every school will also need to plan for the possibility of a local lockdown and how they will ensure continuity of education. Any remote learning will align as closely as possible with in-school provision.