



As we prepare to welcome everyone back full time in all classes we have lots of systems in place to ensure that we are all as safe as possible. As in every other office, workplace, restaurant, shop etc we can only do our best to minimise the risks from Covid-19 and we have a full risk assessment which is on our website and is being continually updated. However, **I thought it might be helpful to share some of the measures that are in place for the safety of pupils, parents and staff.**

- **each year group will be in their own class 'bubble'** and contact with other class groups will be minimised wherever possible
- in the classrooms, desks/tables have been arranged so that where possible **pupils will sit facing the front and are side to side with their peers** rather than sitting opposite them and windows /doors will be open for ventilation
- arrival/departure times have been staggered and entry points/gates have been targeted to certain year groups at certain times
- **break times** have been arranged so that only 2 year groups are out at a time – and classes will play in different field/playground zones supervised by staff from their year group 'bubble' and will have their own class based sets of equipment
- **washing hands** will be done regularly and thoroughly
- pairs of year groups will share toilet/washrooms and this will be overseen by staff at key points of the day, e.g. break times and lunchtimes
- our Eastlea coronavirus charter, which we have had in place since June, has been updated with the new expectations and this will be shared with the children and revisited regularly
- the field has again been divided into 4 large quadrants so that **class groups can play separately when they are outside**
- lessons will be class based where possible and **movement for pupils will be minimised in school** – e.g. *they will mainly be in their classroom, computer room or dining hall during the day*
- timetabling of the **Computer Room** has been carefully considered to ensure that only one class accesses the suite in either a morning or afternoon session to allow for cleaning between groups at lunchtime and the end of the day
- Each class (Y1 to Y6) will have **one indoor PE lesson per week in the hall**. This will be a Pilates session for the first half term which will allow pupils to have their own designated 'mat space' and these will be wiped down between class groups
- **Other PE lessons (Y1 to Y6) will take place outside** during the first half term (weather permitting!) – but the hall space is available as a back up if it is needed. The sports which have been chosen as a focus for the lessons are ones where the pupils work more independently and can ensure appropriate cleaning of resources (e.g. athletics and cricket)
- **classes will eat their lunch at designated class tables in the dining hall and timings have been staggered**, queueing will be kept to an absolute minimum, the cooks will wear visors while they are serving the meals and kitchen staff/lunchtime supervisors will clear trays and cutlery. Additional lunchtime supervision will be provided by class based staff.
- there will be **no whole school gatherings** – Friday assemblies will be done 'virtually' and other assembly times will be used as class based THRIVE/Health and well-being sessions
- **specialist input for classes or individuals will continue**, e.g. French from Mme Taylor, music from Miss Smith, PE from Mr Rhodes, Pilates coaching from Ms Marsden, SEND team/speech and language input etc for those who need it
- Clubs will take place led by the staff/coaches/specialists and will cater for 2 year groups at a time – they will work alongside each other rather than in a mixed class group
- **increased cleaning routines will be continued** and we have taken on an additional cleaner to support with this

What will our 'curriculum' look like when the children return?

Coming back to school in September is always a challenge for children – and this year the potential concerns and anxieties will be multiplied a hundred fold. **Eastlea staff are very aware of this!**

In the summer term, although two thirds of the children were back in school, this was on a part time basis and the opportunities available to support transition into the next class were negligible. **Eastlea staff are also very aware of this!**

So...

Bearing all of that in mind we have an outline plan for the first half of the autumn term which will ensure we do our best to provide support for pupils to get back into Eastlea, recognise any anxieties they will have, be able to share the experiences they have faced since we last saw them and then start the process of getting back into classroom based learning.

- **27th August:** Re-open day to provide an informal opportunity for pupils/parents to see their new classroom/meet their teacher and help to allay any anxieties about a return to school after such a long and 'unusual' time
- **2nd – 11th September:** pupils will have the chance to do some settling in/transition centred activities so that they can get to know their new year group staff and classroom routines and allow the staff to get to know them too
- **11th September:** we aim to produce a large display featuring portraits of every member of the Eastlea school community which will take pride of place in the hall – so that it can be seen when the children are in that room for lunches or PE lessons each day
- **14th September onwards:** timetabled class based lessons will begin with a focus on supporting the children to get back into the routine of learning and expectations for homework etc
- **October** (dates/format to be confirmed): parents appointments will take place so that you can come and meet your child's class teacher more formally and discuss how the transition back into school has been and how they are settling in their new class

