



Friday 27th August 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you are having a lovely summer break and, as stated in our previous letter, our Senior Leadership Team have been working hard to prepare for the reopening of school to children on Monday 6th September.

As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, it is now imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to children are extremely low, and every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for 2 doses by mid-September.

We have a brand-new Risk Assessment and COVID Outbreak Contingency Plan which can be found on our website here: <https://www.grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk/covid-19-risk-assessment>. We strongly recommend reading both of these as lots has changed since the last academic year, and the COVID Outbreak Contingency Plan outlines our steps in the event of a local/national outbreak.

Bubbles

There is no longer a bubble system in place and whole school assemblies will return. Children will also be able to play with children from other classes at break times and work with other classes if necessary.

Attendance & Absence Procedures

- All children must attend school unless they are ill.
- From 16th August 2021, children under 18 (or double-vaccinated adults) do not need to self-isolate or miss school if a member of their household or a contact has COVID. Instead, they will need to book a PCR test but can continue coming to school so long as they have no symptoms, and the test result is negative.
- If a child develops COVID symptoms at home, they should stay at home and should book a PCR test (NOT a Lateral Flow Test).
- If a child develops COVID symptoms at school, they will be sent home and a PCR test should be booked.
- If a child tests positive for COVID, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days (remote learning will be provided if they are well enough to complete it). The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but instead should book a PCR test.

Hygiene

We will continue to focus on ensuring good hygiene for all of our children and staff. Frequent and thorough handwashing is regular practice in school, and we will continue to keep all of our hand sanitising stations around school. Children will continue to wash their hands upon entry to the school building, before and after

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Chair of Governors: Mr Andy Craven





break times/eating and at the end of the day. We will also continue to use the 'Catch It, Kill It, Bin It' approach – asking children to either sneeze or cough into a tissue, or into their inner-elbow. We would appreciate if you could also reinforce this at home.

The school will continue to be thoroughly cleaned and ventilated. Further information on cleaning and ventilation can be found on our Risk Assessment.

Arrival/Departure

We will continue to have staggered arrival and departure times – but these will be shorter. This, alongside keeping our one-way system (details below), will maintain high levels of safeguarding and eases congestion in and outside the school grounds. We appreciate that many parents have to get their children to school and then themselves to work. Therefore, our arrival times now only have a total of 10 minutes difference between them. We would appreciate if you could adhere to these timings to keep things running smoothly.

Staff will collect children from the playground and children in Year 5 and Year 6 can enter via the classroom fire doors. Staff in Nursery and Reception will meet you at the door as you drop your child off.

Gates will open at 08:35 for arrival and 15:05 for departure. The new timings and entry/exit points are outlined below:

Year	Arrival	Departure
Nursery	09:00 via Nursery Gate	15:15 via the Nursery Gate
Reception	08:40 via Nursery Gate	15:10 via Nursery Gate
1	08:40 via Playground Zone B	15:10 via Playground Zone B
2	08:40 via Playground Zone A	15:10 via Playground Zone A
3	08:45 via Playground Zone B	15:15 via Playground Zone B
4	08:45 via Playground Zone A	15:15 via Playground Zone A
5	08:50 via Playground Zone B*	15:20 via Playground Zone B*
6	08:50 via Playground Zone A*	15:20 via Playground Zone A*

*Please note that we recommend that children in Year 5 and Year 6 walk/cycle home on their own where possible, or meet their parents in an agreed location away from the school grounds. This worked very successfully during the last academic year.

NURSERY/RECEPTION ONE WAY SYSTEM: Enter via the Nursery gate, follow the arrows around the shed, drop your child off at the door and continue following the arrows back out the gate.

YEAR 1 – 6 ONE WAY SYSTEM: Enter through the Village Hall car park, follow the arrows round to the playground and then leave via the small side gate past the school office window.

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Parking

Please can we remind all parents that they layby outside school is not for parents to park in? Some of our children come to school by public transport and, towards the end of last term, these vehicles could not always access the layby – this is not safe for our children. We do appreciate that parking is sometimes difficult and, hopefully, our staggered drop-off times will help reduce this.

Access To School Building

If you need to pass on a message or talk to your child's teacher, please use our usual email address (enquiries@grimoldby.lincs.sch.uk) or phone the school office. Unfortunately, staff are not able to talk to parents on the playground in the morning as they need to be with their class. A member of the Senior Leadership Team will always be available if you need them.

Break/Lunch Times

We will continue to stagger break times and lunch times as this worked so well last year. *The Farm Kitchen* will continue to provide hot meals and the ordering process for these remains the same. All children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and those in receipt of Free School Meals are entitled to a free meal. If you require any further information on this, please contact Mrs Day in the school office or contact *The Farm Kitchen*.

What To Bring To School

Children only need to bring essential items to school, such as a coat, a hat, lunch, a water bottle (filled with water) and their book bag. Children do not need to bring any pencil cases or stationery with them: we will provide everything they need. We also don't have much room in school for big rucksacks, so we'd appreciate if children didn't bring these in (last year, we found that most children managed without them).

Uniform & PE Kits

Children will require a school uniform and PE kit (to be brought into school on a Monday and return home for washing on a Friday). Full information can be found here:

<https://www.grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk/uniform-information>.

Remote Learning

We will continue to deliver high quality remote education as we did last year for children who need to self-isolate (if they are well enough to complete it). This will continue to be through *Tapestry* for our Reception children and *Microsoft Teams* for children in Year 1 through to Year 6.

More information can be found here: <https://www.grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk/microsoft-teams>.

Curriculum

We will continue to teach a broad and balanced project-based curriculum in September. In Year 1 through to Year 6, we will have a strong Geography focus throughout our projects until December. Staff will make an assessment on children's attainment early in the Autumn term in order to address any gaps through appropriate intervention.

As always, we will continue to place a heavy focus on children's wellbeing and mental health, and supporting them as they return to school. Please remember to look at the Transition Profile from your child's new

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teacher and you could also watch the virtual tour on our website (remember that Mrs Jen Smith will also be teaching in Year 3): <https://www.grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk/video-tour>.

As always, do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions. The school office will not be open until Thursday 2nd September, whereby all staff will be in for two training days. We are really looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday 6th September and we thank you in advance for your cooperation and support as always. This academic year will be no different to any other: we will work together in unity and be the best that we can be.

Yours faithfully,

Antonia Brooks
Headteacher

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