

Dear parents and carers

## **Welcome back!**

It was wonderful to have our children back in school and to see so many smiling faces. All staff have been so impressed with the positive attitude of pupils who were ready to start school. The staff have really enjoyed meeting their new starters and their families. It has been a great start to the new school year.

We have also been impressed with how well our families and children have followed the new start times and ensured they have kept appropriate distance whilst entering and leaving school. Everyone has been trying their very best to ensure they leave a two metre distance when walking down the path. We have received lots of positive feedback from parents, carers and staff.

## **Keeping Everyone Safe**

You will be aware that from Monday, the government is limiting social gatherings to six people. While this new law does not apply to schools or workplaces, nevertheless it has been introduced urgently as cases of Covid-19 have begun to rise rapidly. Therefore, as a safety measure and to play our part in helping to reduce any transmission of the virus, we would like to remind our families to ensure:

1. Only 1 parent or carer should be on a school site and for the **shortest time possible**. No siblings over the age of 11 should be coming onto the playground with their parents to collect a child. We need to ensure teachers can safely hand over pupils whilst making sure parents and carers remain at a safe distance.
2. Staff have noticed some parents and carers entering the playgrounds at a far earlier time than they need to be. Larger gatherings of parents is something we must avoid at all times. **Please do not arrive at school earlier than you need to.**
3. Please remember to keep moving! Once you have dropped off or collected your child, we respectfully ask you to please immediately leave the school premises. This helps avoid congestion. We are also opening the double gate at the end of the day to help ease this.

Some Ebor schools in York are requesting parents to wear masks when entering the school grounds however this is not a decision we currently feel we need to implement. However if staff or families start to feel that parents and carers are not following the 2 metre distance when walking into school and waiting on the playground or mugga, then we will implement the wearing of masks.

Members of the Senior Leadership Team will stand on the yellow stars near the main gate on a morning and after school to help you follow the new routine and answer any of your questions, briefly. We do really miss our daily conversations with our families but please remember we are still all available to talk to you via email, seesaw or on the telephone. Our main priority is to ensure we keep all children and staff safe.

We politely ask all our families not to enter any school buildings without prior arrangement. If you need to enter the office urgently then we are asking all parents and carers from **Monday 14th september** to wear a mask.

We will continue to refine the changes to our procedures to ensure everyone in our school community is kept safe during the ongoing pandemic. We have a comprehensive risk assessment in place, which you can view on our website, and this will be regularly monitored and updated as necessary by our governors and by Ebor Academy Trust.

These remain challenging times for everyone. All staff continue to do their best for the children and it remains very important we all pull together to remain safe.

Yours faithfully