

No 1 Multi Academy Trust for disadvantaged pupils' outcomes

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2019 AND NO 3 IN 2018

Top 10 National Pupil Progress

DFE PERFORMANCE TABLES 2018 AND 2019



Wednesday 3rd March 2021

Dear Parents

As promised last week, here are the arrangements for our wider opening from Monday 8th March. We have been working hard to ensure that our arrangements for next week are in place and that we are fully prepared to safely welcome back all of our children.

These arrangements should look familiar to what was in place in September and are there to ensure everyone's safety. The children have been out of school for a long period of time so we would be grateful if you would take the time to share this with your child so they feel as prepared as possible about what school will be like next week.

Drop off and pick up times

As we reopen the school to all children we still remain under many lockdown restrictions, therefore we need to continue to mitigate the number of people gathering on school grounds to keep our children, staff and families safe. With this in mind, drop offs and collections will continue to be staggered.

The one way system through the school grounds remains in place for the drop off and collection of KS2 children. Parents are requested not to gather in groups around the entrances. These measures are in place to protect the children, staff and community and we expect all families to comply with these arrangements.

Steeple Cove

Drop off and collection times will remain the same and you will continue to use the entrance at the back of the school directly into the Nursery.

Yarmer and Leas Foot

Children will enter through the gate to the left of the main entrance and go through the Yarmer outside area to the cloakroom.

8.40/3.20 Children whose surnames begin A-M
8.50/3.30 Children whose surnames begin N-Z

Butter Cove

Children will enter directly into the Butter Cove entrance at the beginning of the school day but will be dismissed from the playground with the other KS2 classes at the end of the school day.

8.40/3.20 Children whose surnames begin A-M
8.50/3.30 Children whose surnames begin N-Z

Sedgewell Cove and Bantham

Children will enter the school through the playground door and into their respective classrooms.

8.40/3.20 Children whose surnames begin A-M
8.50/3.30 Children whose surnames begin N-Z



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Entrance to the Butter Cove and playground entrances will only be through the side gate. Parents will then need to walk down the side of the school and exit through the bottom playground gate. Please follow this one way system.

We also kindly ask that only one adult drops off and collects their child. If you have more than one child with you, we politely ask that they do not play on any equipment or within the school grounds. This will help us to control the risk for our whole community.

It is very important that you keep promptly to your time slot and allocated entrance/exit to help us to ensure our bubbles remain safe, and limit the risk of cross-contamination.

Testing

Staff are now testing twice weekly with the Lateral Flow Tests (LFT's) and will continue to do so. Families of school and college aged children are now able to test if they wish. The information on how you are able to obtain tests for your families can be found here

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm_source=1%20March%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

Attendance

From March 8th, Government guidance states that attendance will once again be compulsory for all children, as it was prior to lock down. We are expecting to see everyone on this day and we are excited to continue the year together as a school family again.

Uniform

In line with Government guidance, the expectation is that all children will return to their full school uniform, which also includes sensible school shoes. Further information can be found on our academy website or you may wish to speak to Mrs Brodie. We do of course understand that children have grown and shops are shut! If school uniform does not now fit, please try to ensure that the children are wearing clothes as similar to school uniform as possible i.e. dark, plain trousers. Classrooms will continue to be well ventilated, so children may wear/bring extra layers of clothing to wear over the top of their school sweatshirt i.e. a hoodie, to ensure that they are comfortable to learn.

Lunches

From Monday 8th March, all of our children will be able to have a hot dinner in school once more if they wish. These will continue to be free for those children in Reception, Key Stage 1 and those entitled to free School Meals funding. Key Stage 2 children will need to pay online. All children/parents are asked to select their meals in advance.

Equipment

All children will be able to bring their own book bag, water bottle and packed lunch box (unless they are having school dinners). Key Stage 2 children may also bring a pencil case, but the contents must not be shared with anyone else. PE kits should be brought to school on the days children have their PE lessons (Thursdays and Fridays) and taken home in that evening. We realise this is not ideal, but we need to keep the school as clear as possible in order for us to ensure thorough cleaning to take place.

Bubble Structure

The new guidance states that bubbles can be bigger than a class if necessary. At All Saints' Thurlestone, this means that in order to work effectively and to retain the unique character of the school, there will be two bubbles. One bubble will comprise Steeple Cove Nursery, Yarmer and



Leas Foot; effectively forming an EYFS/Key Stage 1 bubble. The second bubble will consist of Sedgewell Cove, Butter Cove and Bantham; forming a Key Stage 2 bubble. These bubbles will ensure that the curriculum can continue to run smoothly and effectively as per the government guidance.

Hygiene and Cleaning

There will be a continued focus on enhanced hygiene measures throughout the day to keep our children and staff safe whilst they are in school. Your child's teacher will be on hand to remind them about the importance of regular handwashing and the use of tissues to "*catch it, bin it, kill*" for any sneezes or sniffles. We ask for your support in reinforcing these messages at home with your child.

Alongside these hygiene measures, the strengthened cleaning procedures will continue to be an important component of the school day. As mentioned above, we will be minimising the number of items we are able to keep in school. Please see your child's teacher if you have any questions or for more information.

We ask that our families cooperate with us to support the work of the national *Track and Trace* system when necessary.

Communication with staff

As we are still in lockdown restrictions, it will not be possible for you to speak to class teachers at the start and end of the school day. We know how important this is to you, and we value your support in helping us to mitigate the risk of bottlenecks or traffic jams at these key times which may endanger our whole community. Unfortunately, the academy office will also not be available at this time; however, Mrs Brodie will be available via the telephone and will pass on email messages during the school day. Additionally, the class email addresses will also remain open and the teachers will monitor these. The teachers will be teaching throughout the day, but they will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

Wellbeing and mental health

We fully appreciate that every family will have had differing experiences during the pandemic, and that for some children and families, returning to school may be a source of anxiety. We would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that we will be continuing to support your child's wellbeing and mental health as they make the transition back to school. We also understand that some children have found learning tricky during this time, and as a staff we have carefully considered how we will support each child, identifying any gaps, responding to their strengths and moving them forwards on their individual learning journey.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday!

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L. Garside".

Miss Lesa Garside
Executive Head