



Merrydale Junior School

Be the Best you can Be!



Headteacher: Catriona Mugglestone

Deputy Head: Antony Corbett

21st August 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

SCHOOL RE-OPENING – TUESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2020

We have had a real mixture of weather from sunshine to showers but hope you have all had a good summer break.

As you know the Government have stated they want all pupils and staff to return to school. I know you may be a little apprehensive about sending your child but please be assured that we are putting provisions in place to keep both pupils and staff as safe as we possibly can. All staff are really looking forward to seeing the children again.

Our full school risk assessment will be posted on the school website for you to view once this has been agreed by our Advisory Board next week.

As you know the new term starts on **Tuesday 1st September** and the following is key information that you need to know. It is a little long but please take the time to read it, as it is **IMPORTANT information**.

- We will minimise the movement of pupils and staff around the school by staying within classes and only mixing and moving within the year groups.
- Good, increased **hygiene** must be maintained, and your child will be expected to wash their hands several times throughout the day including before eating, before/after breaks, PE, after coughing or sneezing and using the toilet.
- **Uniform** – School uniform must be worn.
- **Lockers** – Lockers and cloakrooms will not be used. Belongings need to stay with your child in their classroom.
- **PE Kit** – This needs to be brought into school for each PE day and taken home on the same day. Your class teacher will notify you of the days your child has PE.
- **Resources** - All pupils will be provided with their own individual pencil case containing equipment for their use only. Any shared resources will be cleaned per our risk assessment.
- **Travelling to and from school** – We strongly encourage all children to walk to school where possible. We would ask that NO CARS park in the area outside of the gates on Claydon Road (in all areas past the main school gate). We have asked Leicester City Council to close this area of the road however if ALL parents (except those with a valid disability) took responsibility for this and parked further away from the school this would help keep all our children safe.



Merrydale Junior School
Tel: 0116 2767708

Healthy School office@dsatmerrydale.org

Claydon Road, Leicester, LE5 0PL
Fax: 0116 2762820

www.merrydalejuniors.com





Merrydale Junior School

Be the Best you can Be!



Headteacher: Catriona Mugglestone

Deputy Head: Antony Corbett

- **Start and end of day arrangements** - There will be staff around to help support pupils and parents/carers, so you all know where to go and to remind about social distancing.
 - All year groups may use either gates on Claydon Road or Hastings Road.
 - There is no entry or exit for pupils or parents/carers through the reception area of the school.
 - There are specific arrangements for each year group which are listed at the bottom of the letter – **PLEASE CHECK BELOW FOR YOUR CHILD’S YEAR GROUP ARRANGEMENTS.**
- **Face masks** – Any child wearing a face covering on their journey to school must remove them once they enter the gate. These must then be placed in a plastic bag for future use (staff will have bags to give out to children without their own). On leaving school, children may put their face coverings back on as they go through the gate.
- **Breaktimes and Lunchtimes** - These will be staggered, and the playground will be segregated to minimise contact with other year groups.
- **No tuckshop** – As there is no tuck shop, please send your child with a healthy snack – fruit, crisps, a few biscuits, etc but no chocolate or sweets. This is particularly **important for Year 5/6** as their lunchtime will be slightly later than normal due to the staggered breaks for year groups.
- **Water bottles** – Please make sure your child has their own named, water bottle which can be topped up in their own classroom. Water fountains will be out of use.
- **Hot school meals** – There will be a hot school meal service, but the menu will be reduced. Due to staggered times, some classes will need to eat school meals and packed lunches in the classroom areas. A menu will be sent to you before the start of term.
- **School meal cost** – The price of a school meal is now **£2.30** per day. If you want your child to have a school meal you must make sure this is paid for in advance on ParentPay. We are no longer able to take cash at the school office.
- **Breakfast Club and After School Clubs** - Initially we will not be able to run our after-school clubs. However, we are looking at ways to reintroduce these. We have a limited capacity for breakfast club from 8am each day. Please contact the school office for further information.
- **ParentPay** - If you have not registered for ParentPay please do so immediately. If you need help with this there is a step by step document on the school website or call the school office when we return on 24th August so they can help you set this up.
https://www.merrydalejuniors.com/images/school/school_news/current_letters/ParentPay%20Instructions%20for%20Parents.pdf
- **Attendance** - If your child is fit and healthy, they must attend school as normal from Tuesday 1st September. If they are unwell you must follow usual attendance procedures by calling the school office on 0116 276 7708 by 9.15am each day your child is ill, giving the reason for the absence.



Merrydale Junior School
Tel: 0116 2767708

Healthy School office@dsatmerrydale.org

Claydon Road, Leicester, LE5 0PL
Fax: 0116 2762820

www.merrydalejuniors.com





Merrydale Junior School

Be the Best you can Be!



Headteacher: Catriona Mugglestone

Deputy Head: Antony Corbett

If you have been advised that your child must not attend school and continue to shield under Covid-19 guidance, then please contact the school and speak to Mrs O'Connor from Monday 24th August. A quick reference guide for Coronavirus related absences is attached.

You may be expected to provide proof of your child's absence eg: letter, text, etc.

You can find a copy of the school attendance policy on the school website

<https://www.merrydalejuniors.com/parent-information/school-policies>

- **School Office** – As we need to reduce the access to the school site, there is no entry or exit to parents/carers or pupils via reception. If you need to speak a member of staff or the office, please call 0116 276 7708 or email office@dsatmerrydale.org to make an appointment first.

We have tried to cover as much as possible within this letter and these plans are constantly under review and any changes will be communicated with you when appropriate.

If you have a concern that we have not covered then please give us a call or email. Please remember that the school is currently closed and will re-open again for staff only on Monday 24th August. However, if you do need to come and see us then you must call first to make an appointment.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours sincerely

C Mugglestone
Head Teacher

SPECIFIC YEAR GROUP ARRANGEMENTS FOR START AND END OF DAY

FOR YEAR 3

- One parent/carer may bring their child into the playground to drop off in the morning and collect at the end of the day but must wait within the football/basketball cages area.
- **Tuesday 1st September only** please arrive **between 9.15am and 9.30am**
- From **Wednesday 2nd September** you may drop off your child from 8.30am (registration is at 8.45am so your child must be in school by this time).
- End of school will be 3.10pm every day - please wait within the football/basketball cages area to collect your child.
- **Parents/Carers must always wear masks and socially distance while on the school playground.**



Merrydale Junior School
Tel: 0116 2767708

Healthy School office@dsatmerrydale.org

Claydon Road, Leicester, LE5 0PL
Fax: 0116 2762820

www.merrydalejuniors.com





Merrydale Junior School

Be the Best you can Be!



Headteacher: Catriona Mugglestone

Deputy Head: Antony Corbett

FOR YEAR 4

- One parent/carer may bring their child into the playground to drop off in the morning and collect at the end of the day but must wait on the concrete basketball area outside the Y4 classroom entrances.
- **Tuesday 1st September only** please arrive **between 8.45am and 9.00am**
- From **Wednesday 2nd September** you may drop off your child from 8.30am (registration is at 8.45am so your child must be in school by this time).
- End of school will be 3.10pm every day - please wait on the concrete basketball area outside the Y4 classroom entrances to collect your child.
- **Parents/Carers must always wear masks and socially distance while on the school playground.**

FOR YEAR 5/6

- No parents are allowed onto the school playground so that we can maintain safety and social distancing for all pupils and allow parents to support our younger pupils into school. Please drop your child at either Claydon Road or Hastings Road gate so they can walk into school.
- **Tuesday 1st September only** please arrive **between 8.30am and 8.40am**
- From **Wednesday 2nd September** you may drop off your child from 8.30am (registration is at 8.45am so your child must be in school by this time).
- End of school will be 3.20pm every day - please arrange to meet your child at either the Claydon Road or Hastings Road exit. **IMPORTANT - We are unable to monitor the collection of our Year 5/6 children so please ensure you have planned with your child to either walk home or they know where you will meet them to collect them.**
- Please do not gather outside when dropping off and collecting your child. Please continue to adhere to social distancing.



Merrydale Junior School
Tel: 0116 2767708

Healthy School office@dsatmerrydale.org

Claydon Road, Leicester, LE5 0PL
Fax: 0116 2762820

www.merrydalejuniors.com

