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Headteacher: Rebecca Bennett

1.1.2021

## WELCOME TO THE SPRING TERM!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, may I say a warm welcome to all the preschool families and staff joining us from January. We are very much looking forward to working together with all of you!

I expect many of our families are concerned about the return to school and preschool in the light of recent developments nationally. As you can imagine there has been much information and speculation over the Christmas break as to the plans for the return of schools. The health and safety of the whole school community is my top priority and I appreciate your support with this as we begin the new term. As you are no doubt aware, **we are now in tier 4** in this area and this means I will be tightening our measures in school as a response to this to protect us all. Should we be directed to move to remote education at any point, I will be back in touch as soon as possible with our plan moving forward.

As ever, in the event of a positive case amongst the staff or pupils, we will be in contact directly with you regarding any bubble closure or isolation instructions. Please let us know as soon as possible if you or any member of your household is displaying COVID 19 symptoms or has a positive test result.

**We will be open as normal on January the 5<sup>th</sup>, and we are not yet being required to test pupils or staff.**

I have updated our risk assessments and these will be available shortly to view on our website. More information on our local picture is available here.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/latest-coronavirus-updates/>

- 1. Pick-up and Drop-Off-** We will be making the queueing system tighter through the school car park to ensure there are no areas where groups can gather, and I must ask that only one adult attends the site per family. Please vacate the site as soon as you can through the Exit gate only. **Please do not gather on the grass areas or in the village car park.** Timings are tight, and we understand the Village car park can be tricky to access at these busy times, but please ensure your child arrives in school and is collected on time. We want to avoid children accessing school via the Reception as much as possible.
- 2. Reception-** Our school reception will be closed and you may contact us by phone or email only. If you need to drop off anything urgently during the day, there will be a plastic box outside the main Reception doors for you to leave the item. Please ensure it is labelled with your child's name and class. This will be regularly checked by staff. **Please do not come into the foyer.**

3. **Social Distancing-** Please **ensure you stay at least 2m** away from other adults in the queue and at the gate. Our staff are very happy to talk to you on the phone or online about any queries you may have. We need to avoid conversations on the school gate if at all possible. Our teaching team are very happy to talk to you on the phone at the end of the teaching day.
4. **Warm Clothing-** Please ensure your child has additional warm and practical clothing to prepare for the cold weather in the next few days. We will keep classrooms as warm as we can but we do have to ventilate them regularly. Please ensure your child has a warm coat and suitable footwear in school. We will be accessing our outdoors as much as possible.
5. **PE-** Please send your child to school in their PE kit on the day(s) they have PE. This should include warm joggers and a hoody/ sweatshirt to keep warm.
6. **Extra-Curricular Clubs-** These will not be running for the first two weeks of term. We will review this as soon as possible, to give you time to book.

With thanks as ever for your support at this difficult time. Please do get in touch with the school office if you have any queries or concerns. We are here to support you and we are looking forward to welcoming your child back to school.

Yours Sincerely

Rebecca Bennett  
Headteacher