

Newsletter

Wednesday 15th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the last newsletter of the academic year. I don't need to reiterate what a year it has been but I would like to say a final thank you. For all of us it has had its challenges, but the way we have worked together to support our children has been beyond anything I could have envisaged. Thank you for working with us, trusting us and supporting us every step of the way.

A final thank you to the staff. The teachers, cleaners, office staff, site staff, teaching assistants, inclusion team, midday supervisors who have gone above and beyond, time and time again. I remain in awe of them.

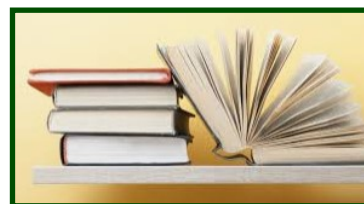
So to the future. The government announced that the plan is for all year groups to return full-time from September. We have a plan in place, which we will be triple checking with West Sussex. The two key aspects are a focus on hygiene and grouping of children. In some ways it will be similar to how we were running prior to lock-down. Putting in the systems that we will have in place—e.g. the hand washing, limiting use of shared resources etc.—is the easy bit. The harder part is to ensure that we don't lose the excitement, joy and energy of a primary school education: the noise of the playground, the joy of practical activities, the energy of P.E. lessons, the excitement of visitors, trips and theatre groups, the relationships that we have with you our parents—through chatting in the playground, face to face parents' evenings, parent workshops, Christmas plays and the range of clubs that we offer. We don't want our children to have a diluted primary education. Our school is a community, we became even stronger during the summer of 2020 and we want to build on that as we move forward. And we will, step by step.

In summary:

- Children will spend the vast majority of time with their own class but may mix at certain times with the other class in their year group e.g. maths sets, phonics lessons, playtime and at lunchtime. Where classes mix indoors we will introduce social distancing as far as possible.
- Each year group will be its own bubble. The bubbles will run as schools within a school.
- Different bubbles will have staggered break-times, lunchtimes etc.
- Bubbling as a year group allows children and staff to work across the year group and for maths sets to continue in Year 5 and 6.
- Staggered start (between 8.30am and 8.50am) and end to the day (between 3.10pm and 3.20pm) to decrease the numbers arriving / leaving at any one time.
- We will continue to teach the whole curriculum.
- Rocketeers will run. Children will be split into 3 bubbles, with two year groups per bubble, across both halls.
- Chartwells will be serving hot lunches to Reception, Year 1, Year 2 only and children in Y3 to Y6 who are eligible for free school meals. Everyone else in Y3 to Y6 will need a packed lunch.

There are further details on the next few pages.

In other news I would like to thank KLASS for their fantastic donation of over £20,000 which will partially alleviate the funding gap that has arisen due to the Covid-19 pandemic. I would also like to say a huge thank you to some of our fabulous KLASS members whose children are leaving and therefore will be retiring from KLASS. A huge, huge thank you to Justine Skelton, Angela Whitwood, Louise Capewell, Rae Hammett, Charlotte Williams and Kelly Knight. Between them they have put in hundreds of hours of work to not only raise money for the school but to provide some of the best community events in West Sussex, including the summer fayre, firework night, the Christmas bazaar, Easter raffle and school discos. The unwritten mantra of this group seemed to be 'bigger and better'. Even when they were clearing away the summer fayre they would be thinking how they could make it even better the next years. A huge thank you for all they have done and for tens of thousands of pounds raised.



Many of you have got school books at home. Please can you ensure that they are returned to school by the end of the term or that you give them to the teacher on the home visit.

Alexis Conway and the staff of Kingslea Primary School

What is a Kingslea bubble?

- One year group in a bubble, usually with their class teacher and teaching assistant
- Adults and children will stay in this bubble all day, in their specified area of the school
- In Year 2 upwards and as far as possible, desks have been arranged so children do not face each other
- Staggered playtimes/lunchtimes for year groups with fewer year groups in the playground at one time
- Children will be encouraged to stay in their bubbles at playtimes, through playing in designated parts of the playground/field
- Less sharing of equipment—children will have their own zip wallets with equipment
- Bags, coats etc. will be in classrooms not in cloakrooms
- Using outside spaces more, moving in the corridors less and one-way systems where possible

As a parent how can I help?

- Take your child's temperature before you come to school; we will only take temperatures if we have a concern
- If your child is unwell, keep them at home.
- Ensure your child has washed their hands
- Be on time and stick to your time for the staggered start to the day
- Socially distance from the teacher: school adults will not be routinely wearing face coverings
- Use the one way system—drop and go—and do not stop and chat in the playground or outside the gates
- Send any messages for teachers via the school office phone number/email rather than on the playground
- Use the KS1 gate as an entrance only; the KS2 gate will be used as an entrance and exit
- Meet older children away from school if you feel it's appropriate, as many do
- Do not send your child in with a face covering, if they need a face covering they should stay at home

Start and end of the day

Staggered arrival
8.30am Surnames A-G
8.40am Surnames H – O
8.50am Surname P –Z
Unless you have been told
differently
Line up outside phase door
One pupil at a time
Hand washing
Enter classroom

End of the day

Staggered departure
3.10pm Surnames A-G
3.15pm Surnames H – O
3.20pm Surname P –Z
Unless you have been told
differently

Example of additional precautions

- Hand sanitisers in all rooms across the school
- Additional cleaning throughout the day
- Cleaning and/or quarantining of equipment used across bubbles

Lockdown but not sat down

We are so proud of the resilience, perseverance and determination that the Kingslea community has shown over the last several months to keep active. We have loved seeing the photos and videos of children being active in new and unusual ways. Who knew a flower pot would become a vital piece of PE equipment? We would also like to thank all those children and their families who took part in 'Specsavers 'Virtual' Sussex School Games 2020'. As a result of all the hard work whilst at school and then during the lockdown, we are excited to announce that we have been awarded the Quality Start Platinum Plus Award. This is a sports award aimed at KS1 to recognise the pupils' engagement, their healthy active lifestyles and the opportunities given to them amongst other things. Well done everyone! We wish you an adventurous and active summer break!



The curriculum

The government has indicated that primary schools should continue to teach a broad and balanced curriculum, something that we completely agree with. At the 26th June INSET day, staff identified skills and content from all the subjects we teach that should have been taught in the summer term. We then fitted these skills into our 2020/21 plans. We know that many children coming into Reception haven't been in nursery since March so in Reception we will be focusing on language, early reading and mathematics, particularly ensuring children's acquisition of phonics knowledge is strong and extending their vocabulary. Parents of new Reception children, please remember there are videos for you and your child to watch over the summer.

PE lessons

Children will be taking part in two PE lessons a week, as per usual. On their PE days children are to come to school in their PE kit and will wear it all day. Children will be going outside for both sessions; however if the weather is really poor then they may have their session inside. We are very proud of how smart our children look in their uniform and we expect the same effort for PE.

We may go on the field when it is muddy so children will either need to bring a change of trainers to wear in school once they have been on the field or be in their socks for the last lesson of the day. **Be prepared for your child to come back muddy (but not this muddy!)**



PE kit

Plain white T-Shirt
Black shorts
Plain black jogging bottoms
Jade green Kingslea PE hoodie/school jumper,
Trainers (not plimsolls)

No logos on T-shirts, shorts or jogging bottoms

YR — Friday

Y2—Monday, Tuesday

Y4—Tuesday, Thursday

Y6—Monday, Friday

(from 02/10/2020)

Y1—Monday, Thursday

Y3—Tuesday, Wednesday

Y5—Wednesday, Friday

PE kit to be worn on these days

How can I communicate with the school office?

- For the safety of our office staff, we ask you to communicate with the office via email and phone, even if you are on the premises.
- All items required for the day should enter school with the child. Forgotten items should not be brought in and will not be accepted.
- If you do have to come to the office, only one person in the lobby at a time and please stand at least two metres from the office window.

Supporting the school financially

A number of parents have asked about making donations to help the school's financial position. Firstly, we very much appreciate these offers. This is obviously a sensitive issue as we are very aware that this pandemic has caused significant financial issues for some families. Together with our school bursar and governing body, we plan the school's budget several years in advance. We do maintain a reserve and have no major short term financial concerns for the school, though we are anticipating lower income in some areas (such as lettings) and increased costs related to Covid-19 such as cleaning equipment, sanitisers etc. Some of this has been offset by a very generous donation from KLASS and we are also trying to claim back some of our costs from the government. We are also very grateful that many parents contributed to the Kingslea Community Fund. We will be writing to you individually about how your donation has been used and our plans for the future of the fund.

If you would like to make a contribution to the school's finances—money that will allow the school to continue to deliver the high quality education we feel we provide and buy resources for your children, including reading books, maths equipment, PE equipment etc.—then please donate via ParentMail. **Select 'Payments' - 'Shop' - find 'Kingslea School Fund' and enter the amount in the 'Optional Donation' box. Checkout in the usual way.**

What will Kingslea do if there is a suspected COVID-19 case?

- We have a separate, ventilated isolation room (not the medical room) which will only be used for suspected cases
- The child will be supervised by an adult who will wear PPE equipment
- The parent will be called to come and collect the child. The parent needs to book a test for their child.
- The isolation room will then be thoroughly cleaned
- Any members of staff who have helped someone with symptoms and any pupils who have been in close contact with them do not need to go home to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms themselves (in which case, they should arrange a test) or if the symptomatic person subsequently tests positive (see below) or they have been requested to do so by NHS Test & Trace.

Following on from a test

Negative Test Result

If someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.

Positive Test Result

If someone tests positive, they should follow the 'stay at home: [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 7-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

Kingslea staff will take swift action when we become aware that someone who has attended the school has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). We will contact the local health protection team. This team will also contact us directly if they become aware that someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) attended the school – as identified by NHS Test and Trace.

The health protection team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious before asking them to self-isolate. Based on the advice from the health protection team, we must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious.

Rocketeers will be open in September

We know how important wrap-around childcare is to many families; therefore, Rocketeers will be open from Monday 7th September. The children will be in three bubbles in the large hall. Pick-up and drop-off will be via the main hall doors.



Kingslea Community Fund

Using some school funding and through generous donations from Kingslea parents, we are able to give limited support to Kingslea families where the change to the economy and the job market has meant your household has seen a significant drop in income. With furlough coming to an end, we realise that some families that previously didn't require help may now need support. We are able to support families who are struggling to pay for food and other essentials, in the form of a supermarket voucher. If this would help you out, please email aconway@kingslea.org.uk and we will see what we can do. This would be in confidence.

System of Controls

The plans that we have put in place are based on the system of controls (a set of actions schools must take) put in place by the government. They include

- 1) minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school
- 2) clean hands thoroughly more often than usual
- 3) ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- 4) introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach

Numbers 1 to 4 must be in place in all schools, all the time

- 5) minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible

Number 5 must be properly considered and schools must put in place measures that suit their particular circumstances

- 6) where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

Number 6 applies in specific circumstances.

Response to any infection:

- 7) engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
- 8) manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
- 9) contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

Numbers 7 to 9 must be followed in every case where they are relevant.



A few memories from 2019/20