



Friday 26th February 2021

Dear parent/carer,

It is with great pleasure after the government announcement at the start of the week that I am writing to inform you about our plans to open to the whole school from Monday 8th March 2021.

Many of our systems will remain the same. The government guidance still requests that all pupils are grouped into 'Bubbles'; therefore, either each year group or group of two classes will be grouped together in a bubble. This is so we can move staff within these bubbles and we can run the school as normally as possible. Bubbles will then be kept separate so that there is no contact between the bubbles, as directed by the government guidance, and they will remain together throughout the whole day. Some classes may be grouped together later in the term for lunchtimes to form larger bubbles; these will be years 1/2, years 3/5 and years 4/6.

We have staggered the start and finish time for each class to minimise contact on the school grounds – see the table below. Only one adult may enter the site and any siblings should only be brought if necessary and must remain next to you.

	Start time	Finish time	PE days
Rabbits – Year R	8:40am	3.05pm	Monday
Bats – Year 1	8:50am	3:15pm	Wednesday
Foxes – Year 2	8:50am	3:15pm	Wednesday
Crickets – Year 3	8:50am	3:15pm	Tuesday
Caterpillars – Year 4	8:50am	3:15pm	Thursday
Ladybirds – Year 5	8:40am	3.05pm	Tuesday
Frogs – Year 6	8:40am	3.05pm	Friday

The biggest change to the school day will be how you and your child enter and exit the site.

We are now operating a one way system around our school site. All classes will enter via the arched entrance from Mill road to the playground. After you have sanitised, your child will line up with their teacher and you will be directed through our one way system around the site to exit by the pedestrian gate by the school car park.





It is important that these drop-offs and pick-ups are punctual and parents leave the site as soon as their child has lined up with their teacher or exited the building. Please do not linger for conversations with other parents during this time, so we can ensure the safety of groups entering the site. It is also imperative that children walking to school aim to get here promptly and do not gather at the school gates or walk with other children to and from school without socially distancing. If you need to communicate with your child's adults, please email the school at admin@millhillandwoodcroft.co.uk, as you will not be able to talk to them on the playground or you can talk to one of the key members of staff outside the drop off points.

When attending school, your child will only need these items:

- **School uniform** –your child should bring a coat in the colder weather and this will sit on the back of their chair or in their locker. Please ensure your child wears PE kit to school on their allocated PE day.
- **A named water bottle** – this needs to be washed at home each day and returned the following day; due to health risks, we cannot be providing cups at this time.
- **A packed lunch in a named carrier bag or a small wipeable lunch box** - this carrier bag will be disposed of so please do not use plastic tubs; if you opt for a lunch box, this will need to be cleaned at home daily.
- **A plastic wallet for Year R/ KS1 (which the school will provide)** - to carry home reading books and spellings for the week.
- **A very small bag with essential items in for KS2-** e.g. library book.

We cannot have toys from home coming into school at this time. Small cuts and grazes will be treated; however, you may not be informed by letter as we are minimising the number of letters sent home.

Please note, children are not allowed to bring in bikes or scooters at this time and mobile phones should only be brought in where deemed absolutely necessary. This is a year 6 privilege only. Phones will be placed in your child's tray in their classroom, so if you want your child to bring in their phone then this is at your own risk.

When the children return, we will be providing a formal curriculum; however, as our pupils have had a different experience during the virus outbreak, there will be a focus on expectations and routines over the next four weeks. If, during this time, your child is unable to follow the school rules, including increased hygiene rules, or does not stay within their allocated 'bubble/classroom', we will be discussing other options for alternative provision for your child.





As the threat of coronavirus is at a level four, the risk of transmitting and contracting coronavirus still remains high. Therefore, we will be continuing a thorough regime of handwashing and sanitising during the school day. We also advise that you ensure your child washes their hands thoroughly before leaving for school and when arriving home from school. We will be encouraging other hygiene rules, such as coughing and sneezing into their elbow. Please discuss these with your child before they begin.

If your child, yourself or any member of your family presents with symptoms of the coronavirus, you must stay at home and arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19. If you or a member of your family or support bubble test positive, you must all isolate for 10 days. Here is the latest government advice.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

We would like to highlight that schools are being asked to minimise contact, not socially distance and it is not possible for the school to provide guarantees about transmission and the spread of the virus. What we can do is to take precautions as advised by the appropriate bodies in an effort to minimise risk.

We look forward to welcoming each child back on Monday 8th March to their classes.

Best wishes,

Mrs Tracy Morgan and Mrs Samantha Watts

