

# Springfield Junior School

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Headteacher: Mrs S Hughes



12<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I said in my letter last week, we are planning for ALL children to be back in school in September and the government have stated that they expect everyone to attend. We are working hard to plan for this in line with the current government guidance and will be keeping children in their class bubbles throughout the day with their teacher and designated support staff to reduce risk and minimise the spread of infection.

Teachers require PPA time and rather than bring in additional staff to cover this at different times throughout the week and expose the children to other adults, we feel that it will be less disruptive and ensure consistency if we can keep them with their class bubble all week and then finish school at 1.30pm on Friday. The amount of teaching time remains the same with 24 hours and 15 minutes direct learning with the teacher. We will use the time on Friday afternoon to deep clean classrooms, for teacher PPA (planning, preparation and assessment) and for some pupils to work with support staff on targeted intervention support. Jaguars class will be able to stay for the afternoon to enjoy social activities. This plan will be reviewed as and when the government make further announcements in response to the changing situation.

We appreciate that this may prove difficult for some parents/ carers and if this applies to you, please let us know as we have some flexibility to make alternative arrangements for those pupils. Our priority will be to ensure that children are safely looked after by an adult at this time.

We initially looked at staggering the start and finish times of the day but feel that we can manage this by using different entrance and exit points for each year group and having a ten-minute window in the morning as is our current practice.

We would ask that parents do not congregate outside before school and time their journey so that children can enter school immediately on arrival as government guidance states that there should still be no large gatherings.

**Please note that staff will be on duty on each of the gates to advise and direct children, so they know exactly where to go.**

Children will therefore come to school between 8.40am and 8.50am and walk straight to classrooms where they will wash their hands and make use of the hand gel stations ready for registration at 8.50am. Morning activities will be available for them to come and start

their learning during this period and staff will be on hand to meet and greet them and make sure they feel happy and safe.

Because we will be making use of the driveway for pupils there will be no access for vehicles between 8.35am and 8.55am and from 3.15pm. We will liaise with the transport firms who bring some of our pupils regarding this matter to ensure they can be safely delivered and collected outside of these times.

Year	Class	Entrance/ Exit	Notes
3	Polar Bears	Car park gate at top of field	Come through main drive gates, turn left into the car park and walk down the path at the side the field
3	Orangutans		
4	Tigers	Side gate near caretaker's office	Come through the main drive gates and walk down the drive
4	Gorillas		
5	Pandas	Small playground gate	Enter school via the steps next to the kitchen
5	Snow Leopards		
6	Penguins	Double playground gates	Walk across the playground and enter school via the automatic door
6	Elephants		
ERS	Jaguars	Swimming pool gate	Walk up the path to the back of Jaguars

At the end of the day staff will bring classes to their designated gate and release pupils to their parents or carers between 3.20 and 3.30pm (1.20 to 1.30pm on Friday). We would ask that Y3 parents come into the staff car park area to avoid congregating at the gates and that Y4 parents wait on the driveway, where you will see markings to support guidance with social distancing.

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer our usual Breakfast Club facility for the start of term but will review the logistics of this as soon as it is feasible to do so.

Government guidance states that this level of social distancing will no longer apply in September and we are in the process of putting desks back into classrooms that are not currently being used for groups to accommodate the whole class (up to 30 pupils). The remaining classrooms will be deep cleaned, and furniture replaced during our INSET days next Monday and Tuesday.

However, as I stated previously, we still need to ensure a 2m distance between the teacher at the front of the class and the pupils so will endeavour to plan the rooms with rows of desks which all face forwards. Children will have a designated seat in the classroom.

Handwashing, use of hand gel and other key personal hygiene procedures will be in place and children will have their own equipment (pens, pencils, erasers etc) which will be kept in trays in their desks.

Children will have separate breaks in four different designated areas around the school site and will eat lunch in the classroom with their bubble.

The cook will be providing a hot meal daily, as she has done throughout the lockdown period, and will post the menu each week so that children know what is available. Classes will collect their meals from the kitchen and take them back to the classrooms as we are unable to use the hall as a dining room. This will be staggered to avoid any mixing of bubbles, with some classes enjoying their outdoor break or downtime in the classroom whilst others are eating lunch. A teacher and TA will remain with children throughout the lunchbreak along with a designated Midday Meal Supervisor for each class.

We remain unable to welcome parents and carers onto the school site for the foreseeable future to avoid cross contamination of bubbles but will endeavour to use other forms of communication (Class Dojo, Facebook, text messaging etc) as well as seeing people when they drop/ collect their children to make sure we keep you as informed as possible.

Advice encourages the return of uniform, but we would continue to encourage children to wear fresh clothing daily where possible. We have a lot of items of uniform in Lost Property along with a lot of clean, donated garments which we will make available to support families who may need additional clothing. We are awaiting further advice regarding changing for PE and may ask that your child comes to school in the appropriate kit on PE days, but will finalise this in September when we have more information.

I would like to reiterate what I said before about our key aim in September being for all children to feel safe and happy in school and ready for full-time learning again and for parents and carers to know that this is our priority.

We have planned to use the "Bounce Back" programme to support children's social and emotional needs in the first few weeks before moving on to the Jigsaw PSHE scheme. We will be using White Rose Maths recovery curriculum for Maths and will be basing our work in English on high quality class texts which we can read and explore together and use as the basis for some exciting writing opportunities as well as a range of creative activities. PE will play an important part in our daily routines and will take place outside wherever possible.

We plan to use Nurture and Positive Play along with a range of specific maths, reading and spelling interventions to help our pupils get back on track but will wait a couple of weeks before starting these, although as I mentioned at the start of my letter, I am hopeful that some interventions will be able to take place on Friday afternoons as soon as possible.

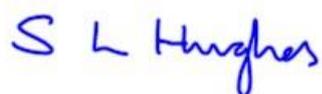
Risk assessments already in place will be fully updated for September and these will be available should anyone want further reassurance that we have considered all eventualities and are fulfilling our statutory obligations.

The school behaviour policy is also in the process of being updated for September and will be shared with parents and carers so that everyone is clear of our expectations.

There is so much to think about and we have to be prepared to be flexible and respond quickly to changes directed by the government but our key priority remains that we want our children to return to a school in which they feel safe, happy and ready to learn and for parents and carers to know exactly what we are doing so that they are happy to entrust their children to our care.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need further information or would like to discuss anything raised in the letter.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S L Hughes". The letters are cursive and connected.

Mrs Hughes