



24th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are all well.

We are delighted to be welcoming all of our Early Years children back into school from Monday, March 8th, following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday. There is universal agreement that the best place for children to learn is in school alongside their teachers and peers and we are so pleased that we can now begin to plan for this.

That said, however, we do need to remain vigilant and remember that Coronavirus will not disappear on March 8th and a risk of infection still remains. All the stringent, protective measures that are currently in place will remain so.

All Children to Return

It is expected that ALL children will return to school on Monday March 8th, with the exception of children who fall into the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable category. If your child falls into this group, please contact me via the school office (admin.osb@ebor.academy).

Whilst most of our children will be looking forward to coming back to school to see their friends and teachers, I appreciate that some might be anxious about it and this is entirely understandable. Please be reassured that staff will be prepared for this and there will be opportunities for the children to talk about their feelings and share any concerns they may have.

WEB Team

Mrs Tempest, our EY WEB (Well Being) Team representative, will be liaising with EY staff and the wider WEB Team, to provide support for children who will find returning to school difficult. They will be able to support the children through individual or small group activities around social and emotional well being. If you have any concerns about your child returning to school, please contact me via the School Office (admin.osb@ebor.academy).

Online Learning

As all children will be returning to school, there will no longer be the need for home online learning. We are all very appreciative of your support for your child's online learning whilst they have been at home. We know that it hasn't always been easy, with many of you juggling other commitments in addition to encouraging and cajoling your child to engage with online learning!

However, there still may be circumstances where remote teaching and learning will still be needed in the future - individual children isolating or bubbles closing due to cases or isolating. We will ensure that, should this need arise, the remote learning will be of the same high standard as during lockdown and will, wherever possible, reflect the teaching and learning that is happening in school.

The Curriculum

When the children return, there will be opportunities for them to reconnect with their friends and teachers and school routines through our usual broad, creative and engaging Early Years curriculum. The teachers will ensure that the children are sensitively assessed to identify any gaps in their learning and plan lessons accordingly, providing opportunities for children to “catch up” where needed.

Staff are currently planning a “Welcome Back Week” which will see the children take part in activities around Art, Sports, Well Being and outdoor learning. We are also delaying World Book Day from March 4th so that we can celebrate this altogether when back in school.

Wrap Around Care

Breakfast and After School Club will be reopening from Monday March 8th. Please contact Mrs Leahy - osbaldwickoosc@ebor.academy - to book places. The Walking Bus will be operating as usual to walk Early Years children to and from the Lane site. Drop off and collection from Breakfast and After School Clubs will be from the usual blue front doors. Please remember to socially distance when arriving and leaving.

Enquiries to the School Office

The Office will remain closed to face to face contact, but the Admin Team is still contactable via email and/or telephone. The email address is admin.osb@ebor.academy.

Please note that our main school phone number is now: **01904 806429**.

Any payments that need to be made for school meals or wrap around care should be made via the Parent Pay or a BACS transfer. Please contact the Office if you have any questions.

Illness

Whilst we know that, nationally, infection rates are slowing and numbers are decreasing, the easing of certain lockdown measures may cause a slight rise in cases of Covid.

If your child shows any symptoms of the virus, we ask that you do **not** send them into school and that you arrange for them to be tested. The symptoms are:

- A new, persistent cough
- A high temperature

- A loss or change in the sense of taste and/or smell.

We will ask that you let us know of the test results as soon as possible so that, if necessary, we can take the appropriate action.

Drop Off and Collection Times

The one way system that is currently in place, will remain in place.

Access to and from the site will be through the main gate and via the path towards the main Ebor entrance. Please follow the path to the right of the entrance and around the side of the building to the gate.

Please drop your child off at the blue doors where you will be met and greeted by a member of the EY Team. Please then exit the site by walking across the playground and through the smaller gate next to the entrance gate.

Please then use the path to exit the site, do not walk across the car park.

When dropping off and collecting children, we ask that all adults are respectful to each other and maintain distance to ensure the safety of all.

Please note that all adults should be wearing a suitable face mask when dropping off and collecting children. Please do not be offended if reminded by school staff - if you are unable to wear a covering for a legitimate reason, please let staff know.

Nursery Children

For children going home after a morning session or after lunch, staff will walk the children to meet parents and carers at the entrance gate. This is for safeguarding reasons and to minimise the number of adults that we have on site throughout the day.

For children arriving for the afternoon session, please wait at the entrance gate and staff will collect children from parents and carers.

Timings

For both Nursery and Reception, the timings will be:

Drop off: 8.45-9am Collection: 3-3.30pm

Belongings

Your child will need to bring the following to school with them each day and remember to take all their belongings home with them at the end of each day. This is to still allow our Cleaning Teams clear access to all areas to undertake the daily deep clean.

- Water bottle - there will be no water fountains available
- Book Bag
- Snack Bag - for younger children
- Pack up - if bringing their own lunch
- Coat - weather dependent.

Belongings can be brought to and from school in a backpack but this must be able to be left on a coat peg during the day and taken home each night. We would be grateful if you could please work with your child on being responsible for their belongings and being able to pack their bags efficiently and independently.

Uniform

All children will be expected to wear their uniform when returning to school. Please ensure that all items are named so that all can be sent home at the end of each day.

Support from Parents and Carers

We would really appreciate your support in talking to children about the continued importance of good hygiene and safety measures. We will still be expecting the children to take part in regular hand washing, sanitising and taking the “catch it, bin it, kill it” approach when blowing their noses or sneezing and maintaining distance between themselves and others wherever possible.

We would also appreciate your support in talking to your child about behavioral expectations regarding keeping everyone safe and listening to and following new instructions and directions.

As I have previously mentioned, we have a robust Risk Assessment and safety measures in place and, whilst we can't completely eliminate any risk of infection, we are doing all we can to minimise it. All of our systems and processes are regularly reviewed and updated in accordance with Government and Trust guidance.

We are very much looking forward to seeing all of our children back with us on Monday March 8th.

Best wishes



Mrs Mould
Acting Headteacher

