

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Attached are our plans for 8<sup>th</sup> March. As usual, I have followed government guidance, liaised with Hampshire County Council and consulted with colleagues at school.

We will provide a robust and thorough arrangement and full education for our children whilst also minimising the risks that continue to be associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. We all want our children and our staff team to be as safe as they can be. Despite the known risks of schools fully reopening, we also know that it is key for our children's mental, emotional and physical well-being that they return to school. We have missed the children so much and we know that they have missed each other.

It is important that we all commit, as a community, to the clear 'roadmap' that the Prime Minister has detailed. If families do not follow the rules they risk not just their health but also the health of those at school by increasing the chance of spreading the virus to other families and staff. I think it is safe to say they no one wants another lockdown and we all want to be able to safely see our families and loved ones after such a long time!

With this in mind, please ensure there are no 'at home' playdates or sleepovers or any other gatherings that may go against the rules.

Please find below a table of questions relating to the full reopening of schools. This will be similar to the September organisation but there are a few changes. [Changes have been marked in blue.](#)

	<b>EYFS &amp; KS1</b>	<b>Additional notes</b>
When will my child return to school?	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School attendance will be compulsory from March 8<sup>th</sup>. We will take our usual statutory actions in the case of non-attendance</li> </ul>
What time will school start and finish?	<b>Bumblebees:</b> 8:50am – 3:10pm <b>Honey Bees :</b> 8:40am – 3:00pm <b>Carpenter Bees:</b> 8:50am-3:10pm <b>Nectar :</b> 8:50am – 3:10pm <b>Honeycomb:</b> 8:40am-3:00pm <b>Bee Keepers:</b> 8:40am-3:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This staggered start and finish is to minimise the numbers of parents on the school site.</li> <li>This is a temporary change implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>Out of courtesy please arrive and leave promptly.</li> <li>Please follow the directional arrows and wait at a safe distance from other parents and children.</li> <li>1 adult to enter the school site for pick up and drop off</li> <li>Please wear a face covering whilst on the school site</li> <li><b>In line with our risk assessment, parents will not enter the school building and should leave the school site as soon as possible.</b></li> </ul>

*Headteacher Miss S Vittle*

	<b>EYFS &amp; KS1</b>	<b>Additional notes</b>
Will my child be in a bubble?	Yes, with all their Key Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each <b>class</b> will come in and out of school through their classroom doors and movement around the school will be minimised.</li> <li>Each <b>bubble</b> will have break times together</li> <li>Children will eat lunch with their bubble in class groups, in the hall.</li> <li>We have opted for Key Stage bubbles as this is the best logistical solution for the children. Please be aware that should there be a confirmed case of Covid-19 then there is a possibility that the <b>whole bubble</b> will need to self-isolate. Should this occur then we will liaise closely with Public Health England and take the most up to date advice available at the time.</li> </ul>
Will my child need to wear uniform?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All children will be expected to wear their full school uniform.</li> <li><b>Shoes</b> We recognise that this has been a difficult time financially for many families and many shoes have not even been worn! Getting to shops and measuring shoes is also going to be tricky for a while. Therefore, to help with this, if your child does not have school shoes that fit, we will allow trainers or other shoes until Easter.</li> <li>Please no boots or slip-ons/sandals.</li> <li>If you have any good quality shoes or trainers please do consider donating these to the second hand uniform store. I think this could be a great support for so many and much better for the environment too.</li> </ul>
What about PE?	<p><b>Bumblebees:</b> Friday <b>Honeybees:</b> Monday &amp; Friday <b>Carpenter Bees:</b> Monday &amp; Thursday <b>Nectar Class:</b> Weds &amp; Thursday <b>Honeycomb:</b> Tuesday &amp; Friday <b>Bee Keepers:</b> Tuesday &amp; Friday</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please wear <b>full school PE kit</b> on the days you have PE.</li> <li>Full PE kit is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms</li> <li>House colour T-Shirt</li> <li>Official house hoodie or School jumper</li> </ul> </li> <li>Different coloured bottoms or tops or branded clothes will not be acceptable</li> <li>This change has been brought in to minimise time spent changing as well as items brought into school</li> </ul>
What will my child need?	<p><b>KS1: A book bag</b> <b>KS2: A small rucksack</b></p> <p>A named water bottle Reading record and book</p> <p><b>Optional:</b> Packed lunch, Healthy snack</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The free fruit and vegetable scheme should be up and running for KS1 shortly.</li> </ul>

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	EYFS & KS1	Additional notes
What will my child <b>NOT</b> need?	Pencil case Toys from home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All school equipment will be personalised and provided by the school. Children should bring nothing else to school.</li> </ul>
Will breakfast club and after school club be running?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All children will be able to request a place at either Breakfast or After School club.</li> <li><b>To support us with planning and preparation, please make your request for places online and well in advance.</b></li> <li>The children will be kept in their school time bubbles</li> <li>Modifications to the preparation and serving of food have been made in line with government guidelines.</li> </ul>

### What measures are you taking as a school to keep my child safe?

We are continuing to follow the system of controls as set by government guidance:

Government guidelines:	School Action:
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff and children are to not to attend school if they are displaying any symptoms of Covid-19.</li> <li>Any child displaying symptoms will be immediately sent home.</li> <li>The school will follow the procedures outlined by PHE in these circumstances</li> <li><a href="#">School staff are taking Lateral Flow Tests twice a week</a></li> </ul>
2) clean hands thoroughly and more often than usual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will continue with the rigorous handwashing routines we have established</li> <li>Handwashing rules will be implemented in every class</li> <li>Outdoor sinks will be available for children to use</li> </ul>
3) ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will continue with this expectation across the school</li> <li><a href="#">Adults will wear face coverings in communal areas when risk of mixing bubbles is higher.</a></li> </ul>
4) introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will continue with the cleaning regime implemented whereby tables, handles etc are cleaned during the day and again at the end of the day.</li> </ul>
5) minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children will mainly face the front of the class.</li> <li>Children will only be with other children in their class and bubble</li> <li>Collective worship will only take place via video links</li> </ul>

More advice from the government can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>



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**Headteacher Miss S Vittle**

My thanks go to the fabulous staff team here at Ropley who, I am sure you will agree, have raised the bar in terms of our Remote Learning offer during this lockdown. Our school has remained open and staffed throughout all of the Government prescribed lockdowns. Teachers, LSAs, the admin team, site staff, cooks and cleaners have all been here throughout to enable remote and in school learning.

Being able to keep in touch with the children on Teams has been invaluable for all of us and has enabled a continued sense of community during this tricky time. Everyone has worked so hard. So many children have taken their quality and quantity of work to a new level compared to the first lockdown. We are so proud of them and so grateful for all the support that has been given.

As a staff, we have all appreciated parent's kindness and patience. From those of you who have stopped to ask how we are, to understanding when we have not been able to instantly respond to an email and the ever appreciated soap, sanitiser, chocolate and biscuit donations. Your kindness and compassion have had a positive impact on our well-being and ultimately how we can fulfil our roles in these difficult times. A Big Thank You from all of us!

We are really looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to school on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

*Miss S Vittle*

Miss Vittle  
Headteacher