



Pride in ourselves,
pride in our school,
pride in our community.

High Street
Arlesey
Beds
SG15 6SL
Tel: 01462 732002
Email: GMA-Office@bestacademies.org.uk

4th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am so pleased to confirm that we will be opening our doors to all children from Monday next week, the 8th March!

We believe that school is the best place for children to receive their education and we're really pleased that the data around COVID-19, including the roll out of the vaccine, is good enough for us to return to this. As we were initially expecting to open to all pupils in January, before the national lockdown was announced, we are prepared for the return of pupils to school with greater levels of safety measures in place than we had in the autumn term.

What will be most relevant to you though has stayed much the same. We'll still have staggered start and finish times for different year groups and siblings can arrive at school at the time of their sibling with the earliest time in the schedule below. Your child will have a 5-minute arrival and a 5-minute departure slot – please do not arrive before these as it is just as unsafe for you to queue outside the school gates as it is for you to wait on the playground

Class	Arrival	Arrival	Pick up	Pick up
Nursery Acorn	08:50	Acorn gate	15:20	Acorn gate
Reception Ash	08:40	Youth club playground	15:10	Youth club playground
Reception Oak	08:40	Youth club playground	15:10	Youth club playground
Year 1 Beech	08:45	Youth club playground	15:15	Youth club playground
Year 1 Elm	08:45	Youth club playground	15:15	Youth club playground
Year 2 Willow	08:50	Youth club playground	15:20	Youth club playground
Year 2 Maple	08:50	Youth club playground	15:20	Youth club playground
Year 3 Sycamore	08:45	Upper staff car park	15:25	Youth club playground
Year 3 Chestnut	08:45	Upper staff car park	15:25	Youth club playground
Year 4 Birch	08:40	Upper staff car park	15:30	Youth club playground
Year 4 Hazel	08:40	Upper staff car park	15:30	Youth club playground

Just a few reminders:

- All conversations and questions for staff should come through the office on 01462 732002 or GMA-Office@bestacademies.org.uk
- We will allow no unplanned visitors on site – including parents without an appointment
- If you have missed your child's arrival time, please can you bring them around to the front of school
- Your children will have staggered break and lunchtimes within their bubbles
- You will be informed by ParentMail what day your child should come into school wearing their PE kit
- Please wear a face covering on the playground – recent guidance from the DfE has stated that, "Face visors or shields should not be worn as an alternative to face coverings. They may protect against droplet

Principal: Thomas Clarke
Vice Principal: Nicola Davis
Chair of Governors: Jo Graves



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spread in specific circumstances but are unlikely to be effective in reducing aerosol transmission when used without an additional face covering.”

- Please contact us immediately if your child tests positive for COVID-19 or if they are displaying symptoms consistent with the virus and follow the instructions from the NHS Track and Trace team – **THEY SHOULD NOT COME INTO SCHOOL**

When your children return, our focus will be as it was when they returned in June/September last year. Your child’s wellbeing will be prioritised and we will be providing them with the stimulating learning activities that our teachers are so accomplished at delivering, to enthuse them and provide them with a rich and engaging curriculum. We will, over the course of the next few weeks, be looking at where your children are in terms of their learning, but this will be through conversations, observations, and the work that they are completing. We won’t be sitting them down to do formal tests! From the start of the summer term we will be implementing intervention programmes to support any children who are suffering emotionally with the current situation and the return to school, and we’ll be concentrating on addressing any gaps left by the school closure. We’ll be in touch next term with details about your child’s progress but, in the meantime, please feel free to contact your child’s class teacher if you have any pressing questions or concerns.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you of some staffing changes. I’m sorry to announce that Mr Douglas will be moving on from having served the school as midday supervisor, Mrs Douglas will be leaving her role as senior midday supervisor (she will be continuing as TA in Acorn Class) and Mrs Lowings will be leaving her role as class teacher of Elm Class at the end of this term. All three members of staff are leaving due to personal reasons and we thank them for their years of service to the children of Arlesey and wish them the very best for the future. They will all be greatly missed. Mrs Eatock-Musk has been covering Mrs Lowings’ recent absence and we have been fortunate enough for her to agree to continue in the role of Elm Class teacher on Mondays and Tuesdays until the end of the academic year, giving continuity to the class at such a crucial time. You will have seen that we have advertised for midday supervisors and encourage you to pass on the details to anyone who you think would do well in this role <https://www.gothicmede.org.uk/vacancies>

As always, we appreciate feedback and questions (we’ve been known to miss things and like to learn from our mistakes!) Please be in touch with school through the normal channels should you wish to contact us. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday!

Yours sincerely

Mr Thomas Clarke
Principal

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