

Welcome back!

I cannot tell you how happy I am to be able to welcome all our pupils back to school in September. The disruption and upset caused by the closure of schools is behind us and we are looking forward to a wonderful year together. Having said that, school will be a little different when we return and these changes are all detailed in this leaflet. We have worked really hard to make sure that we meet all the guidance and advice from the Government and that our pupils and staff can work in a safe and secure environment. We have started making plans on how to fill the gaps in your child's schooling caused by the closure as well as supporting their well-being and emotional health as they return to school. We will make sure that Overfields is as warm, welcoming, stimulating and enjoyable as we can. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child, we are only a phone call or email away. Thank you for your support over the past few months and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

Mrs Watson



Key Dates for the Autumn Term

Pupils return to school on Wednesday 2nd September 2020

Autumn half term runs from Monday 26th to Friday 30th October 2020

Christmas holidays are from Monday 21st December 2020 to Friday 1st January 2021

School will be closed on Monday 2nd November 2020 for staff training.

Social distancing and 'bubbles'

In September, our school will be organised into five 'bubbles' of children and staff. These bubbles will minimise the number of contacts each pupil has, reducing the risk of transmission of coronavirus. We will also be maintaining social distancing where possible, although it is recognised that this is difficult with young children and other measures such as regular handwashing will also help keep everyone safe. Please help us by modelling social distancing when entering and leaving the school site.

The bubbles in operation from September will be:

1. Reception and Nursery
2. Year 1 and Year 2
3. Year 3 and Year 4
4. Year 5 and Year 6
5. The Speech and Language Unit

One-way system

When we return to school, we will have a one-way system in place for parents and children at drop-off and collection times. We ask parents to please stick to this system and allow for the additional time it will take to access school.

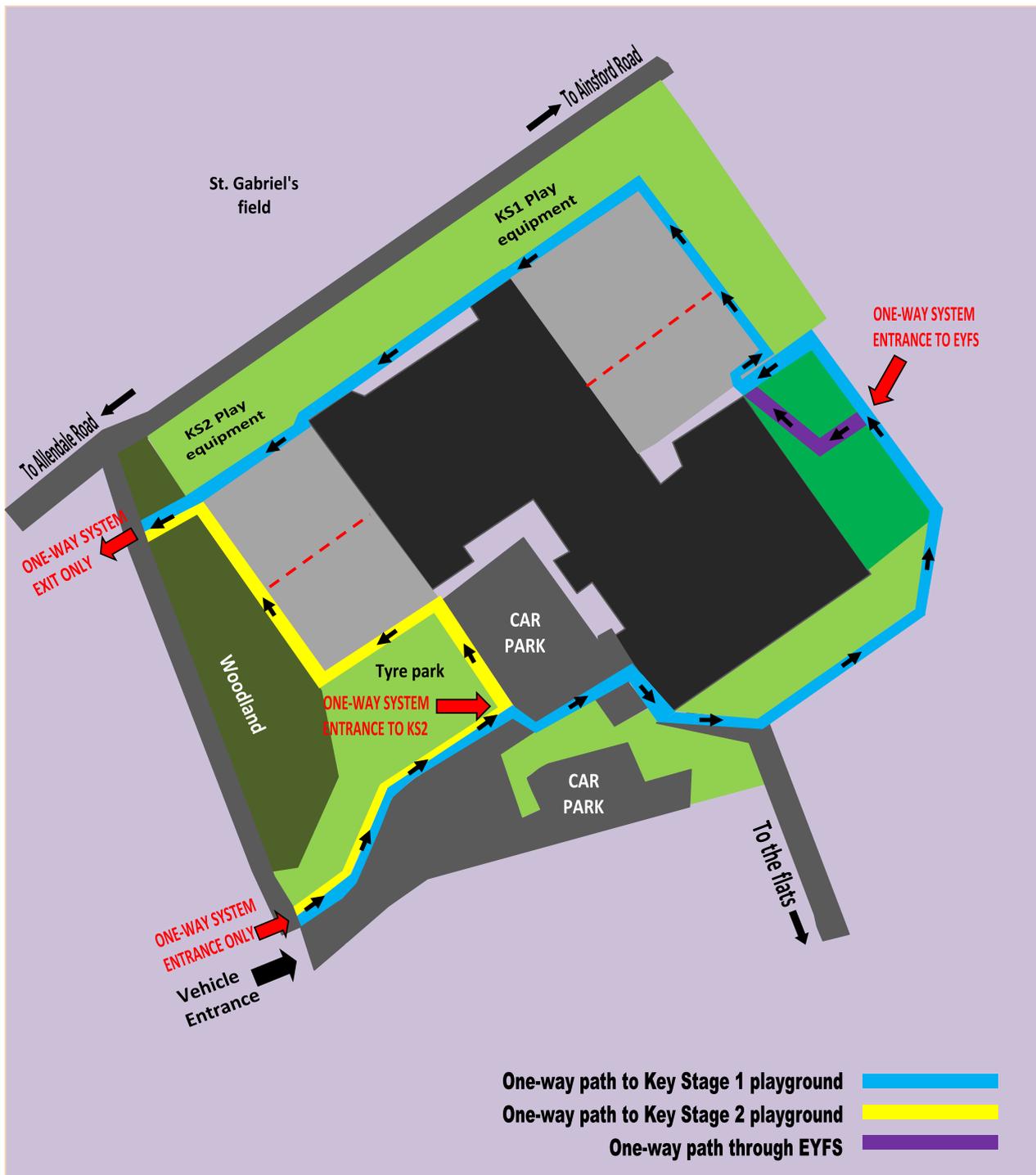
The one-way system will be in operation from 8.15am until 9.15am and from 2.30pm until 3.30pm. The map below shows the one-way system around school.

All parents will have to enter the school site at the main pedestrian gate (near the vehicle barrier)

The EYFS and KS1 playground will only be accessible by walking around the rear of the building behind the Children's Centre and Rosedene Nursery.

The KS2 playground will be accessible through the gate opposite the zebra crossing (nearest to the Year 3/4 classrooms)

All parents and pupils can only leave the site through the gate closest to the Year 6 classroom



MAP SHOWING THE ONE-WAY SYSTEM AROUND SCHOOL

Dropping off and collecting children

For parents with siblings in different classes, we have introduced a small stagger between the Reception and KS1 classes and the KS2 classes. Parents should drop-off and collect their youngest siblings first.

Until further notice, we are asking all parents to not let pupils bring bikes or scooters onto our site.

Only pupils in Year 6 will be allowed to walk home unaccompanied. All other children will need to be dropped off and collected by an adult or sibling (over 16)

Children are not permitted to wear masks on the school site. If your child wears a mask on the way to school, they will need to remove it at the school gate and you will need to take it home to dispose of. If parents wear masks on the school site, it must not be disposed of in any of our waste bins.



Arrangements for dropping off Children

Morning Nursery

Please use the one-way system and enter the EYFS outdoor area through the wooden gate. Staff will meet you there and welcome your child into Nursery. Parents will then leave through the KS1 playground and the one-way system out of school.

Morning Nursery starts at 8.30am

Afternoon Nursery

Please use the path to the rear of the Children's Centre and enter the EYFS outdoor area through the wooden gate. Staff will meet you there and welcome your child into Nursery. Parents will then leave the way they came as the one-way system will not be in operation at this time.

Afternoon Nursery starts at 12.30pm

Reception

Please use the one-way system and enter the EYFS outdoor area through the wooden gate. Staff will meet you there and welcome your child into Reception. Parents will then leave through the KS1 playground and the one-way system out of school.

Reception starts at 8.45am

Year 1 & 2

Please use the one-way system to access the KS1 playground. Staff will meet you there and ask your child to line up on the new markings. If you wish to wait with your child, please do so on the markings. When the children are assembled, parents will be asked to say goodbye and leave the playground before we take the children into school. Parents should leave through the KS2 playground and the one-way system out of school.

Year 1 and 2 start at 8.45am

Year 3,4,5 and 6

Please use the one-way system to access the KS2 playground. Staff will meet you there and ask your child to line up on the new markings. Please do not congregate near the entrances into school. If you wish to wait with your child, please do so on the markings. When the children are assembled, parents will be asked to say goodbye and leave the playground before we take the children into school. Parents should leave through the one-way system out of school via the Y6 gate.

Year 3,4,5 and 6 start at 8.55am



Arrangements for collecting children

Morning Nursery

Please use the path to the rear of the Children's Centre and enter the EYFS outdoor area through the wooden gate. Staff will meet you there and dismiss your child. Parents and children will then leave the way they came as the one-way system will not be in operation at this time.

Morning Nursery finishes at 11.30am

Afternoon Nursery

Please use the one-way system and enter the EYFS outdoor area through the wooden gate. Staff will meet you there and dismiss your child. Parents and children will then leave through the KS1 playground and the one-way system out of school.

Afternoon Nursery finishes at 3.30pm. Parents are able to collect children at 3.00pm if they have older siblings to collect.

Reception

Please use the one-way system and enter the EYFS outdoor area through the wooden gate. Staff will meet you there and dismiss your child. Parents and children will then leave through the KS1 playground and the one-way system out of school.

Reception finishes at 3.00pm

Year 1 and 2

Please use the one-way system to access the KS1 playground and wait on the new markings. Staff will dismiss the children one at a time when they see you waiting. Parents and children should leave straight away through the KS2 playground and the one-way system out of school.

Year 1 and 2 finish at 3.00pm

Year 3,4,5 and 6

Please use the one-way system to access the KS2 playground and wait on the new markings. Staff will bring the whole class onto the playground and dismiss the children one at a time when they see you waiting. Parents and children should leave through the one-way system out of school via the Y6 gate.

Year 3,4,5 and 6 finish at 3.10pm



The Curriculum

The closure of the schools across the country will have had a significant impact on the progress and attainment of all children. In addition we are very conscious of the impact it may have had on the mental health and well-being of pupils. When the children return in September we will be focusing on returning their basic skills in reading, writing and maths to pre-closure levels and also on activities to improve their mental health. Initially all our children will be working on a whole school wellbeing topic. This short theme will allow us time to assess, plan for and begin to address the gaps in their knowledge as well as getting them used to the routines of being back in school before commencing our normal year-group topics.



Lunchtimes

School will provide a hot meal for those children who have requested it and parents should already have received a menu choice form to order their child's meals for the first three weeks. Children can bring a packed lunch if desired. Lunchtimes will be staggered across school and children in key stage 2 will eat their lunches in the classroom before going out to play.

Water bottles & snack

The school will no longer be providing bagels for the children in September but pupils in Key Stage 1 will continue to receive fruit at break time. Children in Key Stage 2 are also encouraged to bring a piece of fruit into school each day. Please do not put this in their packed lunch, but wrap it separately if necessary and children should take this into class. All pupils should bring a water bottle to school each day.



Medical

The school has an action plan for anyone developing signs and symptoms of Coronavirus at school. You can download this plan from the school website or request a copy from the office. All our other medical arrangements remain unchanged apart from the need to social distance when administering medication or first aid. If this is not practical, the school have a supply of PPE to use as an alternative.

We are asking parents to take a precautionary approach to children feeling poorly from September. If your child is not feeling well, particularly if they have a temperature, we would like them to stay at home until recovered. Please contact school as soon as possible if your child is ill.

Books & equipment

We have made some small changes to the equipment and furniture the children will use on their return (e.g. children will not be using PE equipment with cloth coverings). We will give children their reading books and reading records on a Monday and ask that they are brought back on Friday. Staff will then check their records and change the books and return the reading bags to pupils the following Monday. If reading books are not returned on a Friday, pupils will need to wait until the following Friday to have their books changed.



PE kits & Uniform



One part of the curriculum that we will be focussing on in September will be PE and exercise. We are asking parents to supplement the children's indoor PE kit with jogging bottoms, a sweatshirt or jumper and trainers for outdoor PE sessions.

Our uniform requirements are unchanged from last year and are available on our website.

Contacting school

Unfortunately, with the new arrangements for dropping off and collecting children our teaching staff will not be able to have a prolonged conversation with parents at these times. In order to maintain good communication between parents and staff, from September we will again be using the class email address we established during the school closure. If you wish to pass a message to your child's teacher, this will be the most efficient way. We will also be happy to arrange a face to face meeting at a convenient time.

If you wish to visit the school office, please telephone to arrange an appointment (appointments will be available on the same day) before visiting. The main entrance into school will operate a 'one adult' at a time policy. You can also contact the office via email.

The email addresses through which you can contact your child's teacher from September are:

Miss Curtis	nursery@overfieldsprimary.org.uk
Mrs Wilson	reception@overfieldsprimary.org.uk
Miss Theaker	year1@overfieldsprimary.org.uk
Ms Aitchison	year2@overfieldsprimary.org.uk
Mrs Slater	year3@overfieldsprimary.org.uk
Mrs Guilfoyle & Mrs Spicer	year4@overfieldsprimary.org.uk
Miss Bass	year5@overfieldsprimary.org.uk
Miss Whitby	year6@overfieldsprimary.org.uk
Mrs Henman & Mrs Smart	ks1slu@overfieldsprimary.org.uk
Miss Gowland	ks2slu@overfieldsprimary.org.uk



To contact the school office or Head Teacher or for over the summer holiday please use:

overfieldsadmin@overfieldsprimary.org.uk or telephone 01642 314548



Updates will also be posted on our website and twitter pages throughout the summer holidays. <http://overfields.ironstoneacademy.org.uk/>



Thank You!

The last few months have been very difficult for parents, staff and in particular, the children. We just wanted to say thank you for your support during the school closure with home learning, staying in touch and, for those of you whose children returned to school in some way, for following the new arrangements so carefully.

It will be so important in September, when all our pupils return, that we work together to make the new organisation of our school work effectively. By working together and sticking to the new procedures for drop off and collection we can get the children back to their learning quickly and help them return to the enjoyment and routines of school life. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

