



Ashley Junior School

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility

25th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Return to School September 2020

I hope you have been able to enjoy your summer and that you and your family are rested and your child is enthused for the start of the new academic year. We have been busily ensuring that we are ready for the school to be fully operational again. We, as I'm sure are you, are thrilled that all children will be returning, though we are not complacent and are fully aware of the necessity to maintain best practise and follow the guidance.

Year 3 and the children in Robin class will be starting school on **Friday 4th September**. Most of these children have not been in school for 6 months and are returning into a new environment with different adults. They will have the school to themselves and will be able, we hope, to orientate and feel comfortable. All other children will be starting on **Monday 7th September**.

As we informed you previously, children will have a staggered start and finish time. This is following Department for Education guidance and is to avoid congestion. The start and finish time for each year group is in the table below. Children based in **Robins class** will arrive with their year group. If they use school transport, then they will enter the school when the transport brings them.

	Start	Finish
Year 6	8.45	2.55
Year 5	8.55	3.05
Year 4	9.05	3.15
Year 3	9.15	3.25

We fully appreciate that this will cause difficulties for the many families that have children in different year groups. However, we would ask the following:

- Talk to us about your concerns and discuss them with your employers to see if they can be flexible
- The important thing is that the children attend school and are safe
- If it is unavoidable that your child is a little early or late we will, of course, make sure they are looked after

If, after a period, we see that we are able to adjust the timings to align them closer, then we will. We will all need to be flexible and maintain positive communication.

Much has been said and written about schools opening for all children. We believe that children should be in school whilst appreciating we have a duty of care to the whole school community to be safe, vigilant and mindful of the risks attached to re-opening.

- We now have eight hand-washing sinks on the field, three on the playground and two in the quad area. Regular hand-washing is central to keeping safe.
- Anti-bacterial hand wash is placed strategically across the school and in classrooms.
- We have established a very tight cleaning regime for all staff and areas of the school.
- Signage and posters promoting the need for social distancing and effective hand-washing are prevalent across the school.
- All staff are aware that risk assessment is a dynamic process and that we will all be contributing to keeping the school and its community as safe as possible.

No vehicles, other than school transport and staff, will be allowed to enter the site.
We will be using the main entrance into the car park for children to enter the school. Again, this prevents congestion and provides easy access to the two entrances and exits we are using. We ask that only one adult escorts. Drop-off and collection can be in the car parking area being mindful of social distancing guidance.

Alongside this is a copy of the guidance sent out in early August as a reminder. We are confident that our systems will be effective and that we can start the school year with optimism. Our staff are starting their school year a day early, such is their commitment to ensuring we are as prepared as we can be for the challenges ahead.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us at adminoffice@ajs.hants.sch.uk or 01425616510.

Take care and we look forward to seeing you very soon.

Yours faithfully,



IAN RIX
Headteacher