



Friezland Primary School

'A Family Committed to Making a Difference'

Church Road, Greenfield,
Oldham, OL3 7LN.

Tel No: 01457 872601

E-Mail: info@friezland.oldham.sch.uk

Website: www.friezlandschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Miss R Swaby B.Ed (Hons) PGCE

August 2020

September 2020: The New Normal

Dear Families,

As promised, I am writing to update you with our return to school plans for September, as they currently stand. Despite local restrictions, staff continue to plan for the safe return of all our pupils in September unless we are told otherwise by the Government. The school has had to complete a lengthy risk assessment detailing policy and procedures from September and this has been verified by a Local Authority panel. It will be regularly monitored and updated accordingly.

Attendance and Illness

From September, compulsory school attendance resumes and all pupil absences must be accounted for. Please follow our usual procedures and ensure school is notified prior to 9:00am on the day of absence. As before, staff will request the reason for the absence as this must legally be recorded. If your child is presenting with any COVID 19 symptoms, we will forward an e-mail to you which will link you to a series of questions, indicating whether or not a test is advised and details for the nearest test centre. The challenges of COVID 19 will be enhanced as winter approaches and many common seasonal illnesses get mistaken for COVID 19. We have been reassured that tests and the results are usually completed within 24 hours which will provide families with reassurance or clear next steps regarding isolation. If your child becomes unwell whilst at school (regardless of symptoms), they will need to be isolated with a member of staff until they can be collected. Staff supporting a child whether unwell or following an accident, must wear PPE. We will be talking to the children about this so that they do not feel alarmed or unnecessarily upset if this happens to them. These steps are part of our new procedures and are vital in order to ensure the wellbeing of all- we know you know your child best and will make the right decisions regarding whether or not they should be attending school when they present as unwell.

Uniform and Essential Items

Full School uniform will also be required along with PE kits which should be left in school. As before, we are requesting that only essential items are brought to school and where possible items should remain in school rather than being brought to / from each day. Water bottles are an essential item and will now be used at lunchtimes rather than individual cups. They must be taken home to be washed, daily. Please ensure any inhalers are returned to school.

Bubbles

As a small school with a high proportion of siblings, we intend to make our school bubbles as simple as possible. The children will predominantly work as a class bubble wherever possible and any changes to the usual school day will be focused around maintaining bubbles. Staff will move between bubbles where required but this will be minimised. Hand washing facilities are available within each classroom and our outdoor areas. However, children will cross paths when using the toilets as we only have one set of each male/female. The use of the toilets will be monitored and staggered along with additional cleaning taking place at key times across the day.





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Start / End of Day Timings

We intend to minimise disruption to learning routines wherever possible. Staff will greet children as they arrive at the start of the day and will continue with the use of walkie talkies to aid departures. This has worked well in recent months and has meant that parents/carers can socially distance on the playground rather than clustering in one place. We intend to stagger the start/end of the day slightly in order to reduce the flow of traffic. As we have a high proportion of siblings across the classes, we have minimised the times as follows:

Class / Year group	Arrival / Departure point	Arrival time	Departure time
1 (YR)	Shelter (to/from rear door)	8:50am	3:15pm
2 (Y1-2)	Shelter (to/from rear door)	8:50am	3:15pm
3 (Y3-4)	Playground door	8:45am	3:20pm
4 (Y5-6)	Playground door	8:45am	3:20pm

You may wish to send older children onto the premises unaccompanied and arrange a meeting point for home time e.g. Friezland Church. You know best when your child is able to do this sensibly and safely. Please ensure we are clear about any such arrangements so that we can dismiss children accordingly. School gates will be closed promptly after children have been admitted / dismissed and therefore, you will need to use the main entrance if you or your child is arriving late. **Please aim to arrive on time as a delay will make our new start of the day routines difficult for your child.** Until restrictions change, we are unable to allow children to play on the premises before / after school- we request your support with this. **The restriction of ONE adult per family within the school grounds remains.** Please insist any additional family members wait beyond the school grounds.

Communication with School

Unfortunately, parents/carers won't be allowed into the school building. Please communicate with us via telephone, e-mail (info@friezland.oldham.sch.uk) or via Google Classroom. Staff will get back to you as soon as possible if you need to speak with us. If any common queries arise, we will cover them on our weekly newsletters which will remain our most frequent and relevant form of communication so please ensure we always have up-to-date contact details. We aim to make correspondence electronic wherever possible. However, we know that hard copies are sometimes needed. Please send anything that can't be electronic in with your child and they will be prompted to check bags and place it in the class tub at morning registration e.g. club slips / Frostie booking in forms.

Hand washing and Hygiene

As before, additional hand washing and hygiene routines will be carried out across the day. Children will wash their hands on arrival, prior to departure and at other key points including break / lunch times. More frequent cleaning of





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high frequency touch points has already been introduced.

Snacks and Lunchtimes

Healthy snacks (no whole nuts) for break times can be brought into school and will be kept in your child's tray / locker until required. For the foreseeable future, children will take their lunch with their bubble with Classes 3 and 4 eating in their classrooms and Classes 1 and 2 in the hall at designated times and tables. We intend to offer hot school lunches from the start as we know this is what our children (and staff) prefer. As a small school, we believe we can manage this safely and successfully.

Classroom Layouts

Class Teachers have been busy adapting their learning environments over the summer and they will write to their class before September to share photographs of the learning environment and highlight any new routines. We hope this will help ease any anxieties, particularly as many children have not been in school since March. Transition will be our highest priority during the first few days and we will work together to support and reassure our new pupils and those moving into a new class.

Buddy Time (YR & 6)

A strength of our small school is our Buddy system. Unfortunately, the need to maintain bubbles wherever possible will mean that we can't initially operate our usual Y6 and YR Buddy system. However, please rest assured that teachers are working creatively to ensure there are some Buddy opportunities in order to help our new pupils settle into their new routines and to ensure our Year 6 pupils can take on the responsibilities they excel in.

Assemblies

Until we are advised otherwise, assemblies will take place in classrooms / outside. Visitors will be limited but when invited into school, will remain at a safe distance and will move between classes, rather than the classes moving to them.

Frosties (B&A Club)

Our Before and After School Club, Frosties, will resume on Wednesday 2nd September. **Further details will be sent home separately to families in due course.** In order for this service to be viable, we cannot avoid mixing bubbles within the same spaces. However, when indoors, children will be spaced out and will be required to play at designated areas / tables with children in their own class bubble or with their sibling(s). We know many families' work commitments have changed due to COVID 19 and we will monitor the use of Frosties over the autumn term and review accordingly. We will need to be stricter with **advance payments only** in order to ensure staffing ratios can be maintained.

Extra-Curricular Clubs and Music Tuition

It is our intention to offer as many extra-curricular activities as possible as we aim to ensure our children have access to a broad and balanced school experience. These will be phased in over the initial weeks as we plan the best ways for





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them to happen. Please look out for separate letters which will be sent by subject leaders, to the relevant classes / year groups.

Eduspot Accounts

Eduspot accounts will be adjusted in September so that your child moves up a year group and new families receive account details. Please be patient as adjustments are made and let us know if you do not receive the right information or indeed, receive the wrong information. **Please ensure any outstanding debts are cleared and accounts are credited for School Dinners (KS2) and Frosties, in advance of use.** Please be aware that childcare vouchers can take 7-10 working days to appear on our school system. In order for us to correctly allocate voucher credits to the right account, please e-mail the school office with the details when you make a transfer.

The success of a September return rests as much on what happens outside the school gates as within and we must all work together to ensure we support a safe return. On return, anything which we feel doesn't work as well as it could will be reviewed and adjusted as required. Thank you for your patience and support as we work with things we have never had to work with before.

We will welcome our children back on **Wednesday 2nd September**, with Reception children joining us for the afternoons for that week (1:15-3:15pm, the Church Road gate will be opened to welcome you once children are back inside, following lunch time) before starting full-time the following week.

Please forgive the length and formalities within this letter- we are doing what we must in order to keep everyone safe. Please rest assured that the health and wellbeing of our community remains at the centre of any decisions made.

We can't wait to all be back together as a Friezland Family.

Kind regards,

Miss Rachael Swaby (Headteacher).

