



Tuesday 18th August 2020

Dear parents and carers

I hope that you are enjoying the summer and that you and your children have been able to relax. I am writing to inform you of our plans for September. As you know, it is the government's plan to ensure all schools open full-time at the start of the academic year. We have been very busy ensuring that GGA will be as safe as possible for your children, but in order for us to maintain this, we need parents, staff and pupils to work together. There is a detailed risk assessment on our website for your information and I have outlined some other changes that you can expect for at least the first half term. I will continually update our provision alongside the government and unions' latest advice to schools and will try and keep you all as informed as I can.

Bubbles

- Bubbles will consist of 2 classes.
- The classes will remain in 'bubbles' throughout the day and not mix with different bubbles.
- These bubbles will share one set of toilets and the staff will stay with the same bubbles whenever possible.
- The bubbles will have separate start and end times to the day and separate break and lunch times.
- Specialist staff who move between bubbles will social distance where possible and ensure they have used hand sanitiser between classes.
- The bubbles will be as follows:
 - Bubble 1 = Early Years (Nursery and Reception)
 - Bubble 2 = Year 1 and Year 2
 - Bubble 3 = Year 3 and Year 4
 - Bubble 4 = Year 5 and Year 6

Timings

- Each bubble will have a different timetable to ensure they do not cross paths or share communal spaces with other bubbles.
- Drop-off and pick-up will be at the school gate, with different times for each bubble and a one-way system in place (as at the end of the summer term). These times will be as follows:

	Drop off (start of the day)	Pick up (End of the day)
Nursery	8.45am	3.00pm
Year 5 and Year 6	8.30am	3.00pm
Year 3 and Year 4	8.40am	3.10pm
Year 1 and Year 2	8.50am	3.20pm
Reception	9.00am	3.30pm

- It is **vital that these timings are kept to** to ensure that bubbles do not cross over and staff and pupils are kept as safe as possible. Please DO NOT join the queue UNTIL the start of your time slot, in order to allow access to the one-way system for the correct bubbles for each time.
- Siblings must all arrive together. If you have more than one child, please arrive at the time slot allocated to your EARLIEST child and arrive to pick up at the time allocated to your LATEST child. -
 - For example, if you have children in Years 1, 3 and 6, you will drop all three children off at 8.30am (Year 6 time slot) and pick all three children up at 3.20pm (Year 1 time slot.) A member of staff will be waiting in the morning to greet the siblings and take them to their classes.
- Nursery drop off and pick up will have their own designated area by the gate that will be clearly signposted.
- **Other than nursery parents, no parents will be able to come onto the school site, beyond the school gate.** We will try to make this area as welcoming as possible to support the children with any anxieties they may be feeling.
- Please DO NOT bring dogs through the one way system (either carried or walking) as they are not allowed on school property; please do not tie dogs to railings anywhere within the yellow zig-zag lines.

Uniform

- Children may wear their summer or winter uniform to school in September.
- Children MUST bring a waterproof coat to school EVERY DAY as they will be going outside whatever the weather, in line with medical advice. (This is also to air the classrooms)
- On days that the children have PE, they should come to school dressed in their PE kit to avoid the need for changing in confined spaces and also to give you an opportunity to wash their kits regularly.
- All hair long enough to be tied back, must be tied back, with plain elastics.

Equipment

- Children in Years 1 to 6 will be supplied with their own personalised pencil cases by the school that will contain all the equipment they will be using in class. Early Years will share their equipment but this will be wiped down regularly.
- Children MUST bring a NAMED water bottle and NAMED waterproof coat every day.
- A piece of FRESH FRUIT or FRESH VEGETABLE may be brought for breaktime, in the book bag
- If your child has an inhaler (or any other medication), they MUST bring it back to school with them on their first day. Please make sure the inhaler is in date.

- Packed lunches should be brought in a named lunchbox
- NOTHING else may be brought into school from home.(Children may not bring their own pencil cases)

Social Distancing/Other measures

- Tables in each room will be facing the front and the teacher will stand at the front of the class to teach when possible. If a teacher or adult is working closely with a child, they will ensure they have used hand sanitiser and practise good hygiene (Catch it, bin it etc.)
- Children will NOT be socially distancing in classrooms.
- Children will use toilets one at a time and toilets will not be shared between bubbles. Doors and handles will be wiped down throughout the day by staff in their bubble.
- Each class will have time for outdoor breaks (WHATEVER THE WEATHER) and hand washing will take place BEFORE starting lessons.
- Assemblies will only take place via a zoom webinar played in each classroom.
- All children will have their temperatures checked at the start of the day and if their temperature is high (or they are showing any other symptoms), they will be sent home to self-isolate for the recommended time. Any family members will also have to self-isolate.

Lunchtime

- Pupils will eat in the hall with their bubbles.
- They will apply hand sanitiser BEFORE entering the hall.
- Pupils will all eat in the hall - packed lunches and hot dinners.
- Pupils will sit facing forward and not sit opposite other pupils

After School Care

- There will be after-school and before-school provision available for your child and we will give you more information about how this can be booked before the start of term.
- Teacher-run clubs **will not** be taking place in the first half of term – we will keep you updated as to when these will begin.

I realise that these plans may seem extremely rigid, but we are closely following government, union and Buckinghamshire Council health and safety guidelines. It is my responsibility to ensure the staff and children are as safe as possible and this will always be my first priority. The school is being professionally cleaned next week by an outside company in preparation for September.

I hope that all your family and friends are safe and well and I am looking forward to welcoming you all back in September. If you have any questions, please email the school office and we will do our best to reply as soon as possible.

Take care,

Emma Killick