

28/08/20

Dear parents,



We are excited to welcome back our children on Monday. I have summarised the key points and added some new information we have received this week. If your child borrowed a school device to assist with home learning, please return it to the class teacher on Monday.

- **Due to the requirement for us to record the details of anyone, including parents, who enter the site, only staff and students will be allowed on the school grounds (other than if a parent has an urgent need to visit the school office).** Therefore we are requiring ALL parents to drop their child at the gate and allow them to come in on their own, with a friend or supported by a teacher, who will be at the gates. Please note there are NO DESIGNATED GATES IN THE MORNING.
- However, to reduce congestion and help maintain safe distancing after school, children must be picked up from outside their designated gate at the end of the school day, not within the grounds (See chart below). **Do not come on the site to collect/drop your child.**
If you have any questions about individual pick up routines, please email your child's classroom teacher.
- Any older children will collect the siblings from the classroom and come to the bottom gate at 2.45pm, **if they are meeting a parent.** If they are walking independently, they can use the top (Isobel Rd) gate as well, which will help ease congestion and allow them to safely use the crossing.

Year Group	Pick up Time	Gate for pick up by a parent Please do not come on the site to collect/drop your child.
Year 1	2.45pm	Bottom Gate (With safe pedestrian pick up area)
Year 2	3pm	Greenhithe Rd Staff Car park (no car access) Parents can use the side car park to wait safely
Year 3	2.45pm	Greenhithe Rd Staff Car park (no car access) Parents can use the side car park to wait safely
Year 4-6 (Not collecting siblings)	3pm	Bottom Gate

Note: Isobel Rd gate is for anyone walking independently, including sibling groups (to avoid congestion by a road and crossing).

- After school and before school care will be running. Please contact them directly if you have any queries for them.
- **All gates, other than the top gate will be locked between 9.10am and 2.45pm.** At the office we are operating a one in, one out process. Please wait outside, and scan the Covid-19 Tracing App poster, please ensure you stay socially distant from anyone else.

Key Factors For the Ongoing Safety of the Children

Again, our overriding priority is the safety of the children in our care. Please support this by talking to your child about:

- The importance of handwashing/sanitizing hands
- Coughing into elbows
- No sharing food or stationery/devices they are bringing from home
- The need to stay home if they are unwell
- Your child will require a water bottle, as fountains are closed
- The need to stay out of each others' breathing zone
- Ensure they are clear on their after school pick up routine

As a school we have initiated heightened cleaning routines and set up within class processes to ensure regular hand washing and sanitizing, cleaning of surfaces and children will be reminded about maintaining a safe distance (although this is a challenge in a primary school!).

We received this last night from the Ministry of Education regarding the use of masks in schools at level 2.

Do children and young people need to wear face coverings at schools at Alert Level 2?

No. Children and young people do not need to wear face coverings because the risk of infection within the school environment is low. Other public health control measures will be in place including children and staff staying home if they are sick, contact tracing, and hygiene requirements.

Do teachers need to wear face coverings at early learning services and schools at Alert Level 2?

No. Teachers do not need to wear face coverings at Alert Level 2. Other public health measures will be in place including children and staff staying home if they are sick, contact tracing, and hygiene requirements.

Other updates

Parent Conferences: You will receive the information about the rescheduled parent conference dates next week. We unfortunately had to postpone these, but we are working through the logistics of these, using Ministry of Education advice, so we can run them again, while maintaining the health and safety of the teachers and community.

Teacher Only Day: As part of the collective agreement signed by the teachers last year, there are several teacher only days that were included. We chose not to take the allocated days in term 2 and 3, due to the disruption of Covid-19. We will be taking our first one on **Tuesday 27th October**. This is the Tuesday following labour weekend.

We are looking forward to getting back to onsite teaching and learning. I will be sending out weekly newsletters for the rest of the term, to update you on any changes to processes. All the processes and changes we are making are to keep your child, our teachers and community safe. We thoroughly appreciate your support in following the new routines.

Kia Kaha
Ngā mihi

Stephen Grady
Principal
Greenhithe School