



The Grove Primary School

Campkin Road, Cambridge. CB4 2NB

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Headteacher: Miss Ellie Shaw

Deputy Headteacher: Miss Hannah Owen

Dear Parents and Carers,

14th July 2020

We are looking forward to September when your child will be joining us in our Reception/Year 1 unit. This year, we will have two classes, Goslings, who will be taught by Miss Rattray, and Ducklings, who will be taught by Mr Simkin. Both classes will be supported by our teaching assistants - Mrs Fish and Mrs Ali.

Reception children will be starting school **from Tuesday 8th September**. As we have been unable to do any of our transition 'Stay and Play sessions', there will be a smaller number of children starting each day to allow our staff to get to know them and start to build relationships with them.

On the day they start they will **arrive at 9.15am**. They will have lunch and you will **collect them at 2pm**. You will shortly receive a separate letter confirming your child's class, teacher and on which day they will start school.

What time do the children start and will there be a staggered start and end?

- All children will be in school together from Monday 14th September.

	Arrival (all days)	Leaving (Mon – Thurs)	Leaving (Fri)**
Monday 14 th September	9.15am	2.30pm	1.00pm
Monday 21 st September	9.05am	3.00pm	1.00pm

- We currently closed to the majority of children on a Friday afternoon. We will continue to do so in September.
- If you are a key worker or not at home, because you are out at work, please complete the attached form and book a space in our childcare provision on a Friday afternoon. There will be no cost for this.
- All teachers will be having their statutory PPA time during Friday afternoon. The decision to maintain this closure to the majority of children on a Friday, is to prevent more staff than absolutely needed going into the different bubbles during the week and therefore reducing the potential for the spread of Covid-19 should we have a case.

How will the children get into the school?

- We have a one-way system outside school.
- Please come in through the vehicular out gate (labelled) and walk along the front of the school building.
- The gate will be locked to stop any cars moving.
- You will queue along the front of the building and there will be markings on the floor to keep each family 2m apart.
- The SLT (Senior Leadership Team) will be there to greet you and take your child in, if needed.
- Children will continue to go in through two different doors. Reception children will be using the community door and staff outside will show you where this is.
- We will be sharing a video on the *Starting School* part of our website to show this. The link will be emailed to you.

What will happen when my child goes into the building?

- They will go inside one at a time and then be asked to wash or sanitise their hands.
- There will be adults in the corridor to make sure the children are ok and to guide them towards their classroom.
- The children will go to the classrooms using the one-way system in school.
- When they reach their classroom, they will be asked to go into the cloakroom in small groups to put their belongings away.

Will the children be in bubbles?

- Yes.
- As the Government documents state, we have a choice of class or year group bubbles.
- We have chosen year group bubbles to help our school function more easily. As we have been doing with the children currently in school, we will be making sure that these bubbles are not “burst”.

What about going home?

- As with drop off, adults should walk through our vehicle “out” gate, queue along the front of our building and wait whilst their child is called.
- Children will be waiting in the corridor with their class teacher and teaching assistant. We will send children to their parents only when we can see the parent/carer.
- You will then walk out of our vehicle “in” gate.
- The SLT (Senior Leadership Team) will be there to help and explain the route/process, if needed.

Will you be having assemblies?

- Sort of! We will be using Microsoft Teams so that Miss Shaw and Miss Owen can hold assemblies during the week to reduce the amount of time we spend in each classroom and so protect each bubble.
- On a Friday, we will meet with each bubble in the big hall for a weekly celebration assembly. Between each bubble, cleaning will occur. There will be 2m distancing during this and no shaking of hands.

What about PE?

- PE can go ahead but we will only be doing outside learning.

Will the Before and After School Provision be running?

- We have permission from the Government to do this, but we are keen to ensure that we maintain our bubbles through this.
- The final details are being planned and we will write to you about this separately.
- You will need to pre-book a place as numbers will need to be limited for the time being.
- If you are interested in a regular place, please contact the school office.

Can my child ride their bike or scooter to school?

- Yes – children will be able to park their bike and scooter in our secure bike park.
- Please can any bikes and scooters be pushed across the car park for everyone’s safety.
- Bikes and scooters will then be handed to Mr Kingsford, our Site Manager, who put them in the bike shed.

How will you be maintaining social distancing and protecting the bubbles at play and lunchtime? Will my child be able to have a hot meal?

- We are planning on having a full menu option in September.
- We will be staggering the children’s play and lunchtimes.
- Our playground and field have been split into zones. The children will know which zone they are able to play in.
- At lunchtime, bubbles will sit together at a table with children sitting diagonally opposite each other.

What will the classroom look like?

- We will post some photographs once we have everything set up.
- The children will still have access to a range of resources, both inside and outside but we will have an increased cleaning schedule and some resources will be used on a rotation to allow them to be quarantined.
- We will not be using any soft furnishings yet, like cushions, due to the increased amount of cleaning we have to do.
- We will not be using our sand pit yet.

Will my child get a reading book and home learning?

- Yes - reading books will be sent home.
- We will share information on how to support reading at home in September.
- Once your child has finished with a book, it will go into quarantine. Your child will also be able to bring home a library book too. There will be a selection in each classroom to choose from. Again, once it is finished with it will go into quarantine.
- We will be using Seesaw to share examples of the learning we have been doing in school.
- We will also be using Seesaw to suggest activities for home learning.

What should my child wear to school?

- We expect every child to be in the school's dress code.

If you do have any questions or would like to talk through any of the information we have provided, please do not hesitate to contact us. We also ask that you contact Mrs Mel Ramsey in the office on 01223 577017 or office@grove.cambs.sch.uk to confirm that you will be taking up the place in September, if you have not already done so.

We hope you have an enjoyable summer and look forward to working with and getting to know you next year.

With kind regards,

Miss Ellie Shaw and Miss Sally Rattray
Headteacher EYFS/KS1 Phase Leader