



# Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Preparation for start of school – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September

First of all, I would like to begin by welcoming you all back to Denmead Junior School and for our new Year 3 parents an especially warm but socially distanced welcome to you.

Although these are strange and uncertain times, I for one, am very excited at the prospect of all our children returning to school and my staff feel the same way.

We have been working very hard since we broke up making sure we are ready to receive your children into an environment and culture that is as safe as it can be. You will have seen our risk assessment that was published at the end of the summer term and I will pick up on some key aspects of this to help reassure you.

First and foremost, we have set up school to be safe but we have also spent time making sure that it is as welcoming as possible. We have adapted our curriculum to make sure it meets the various needs of all our learners, including an enhanced Personal Development curriculum that will hopefully support your child in their return to school.

We also believe that the return to routine, in a familiar setting, will also help reassure children upon their return, regardless of how they may be feeling in the lead up to the return on Monday.

Myself and Mrs Howard will be on hand to both welcome and assist you on Monday to make sure that your child's return is as smooth as possible.

Whilst we will endeavour in our efforts to enable each child's and family's experience to be a positive one, if we have not got it right for you or your children please let us know by emailing us at the usual school email address below:

### FAQs:

#### **Sibling/minded children multiple drop offs & pick ups:**

- For those families where children have different start and end times at DJS, please drop off all children at the EARLIEST time and collect at the LATEST time – see table below for a reminder.
- Each child must still use their correct entry/exit point in order to maintain the integrity of each bubble.
- Staff on the gates WILL NOT allow early entry for children in any other circumstance.
- To manage the car park safely and adhere to best practice, government guidance asks for children to walk to school wherever possible.
- Younger siblings must remain with an adult at all times and not run around the playground or use any outside equipment.



## Pick up and drop off schedule arrangements reminder:

Bubble Group	Entry Point	In	Out
Y6 (3 classes)	Front field entrance	8.40	3.00
Y5 (3 classes)	Front field entrance	8.50	3.10
Y 3/4 (3 classes: Estonia, Austria and Ireland)	Single playground gate Exit via staff car park	9.00	3.20
Y3/4 (3 classes: Monaco, Andorra and Malta)	Single playground gate Exit via staff car park	9.10	3.30

## Uniform:

- New purchases should be placed online (new families will have been sent a link to activate a SCOPAY account) and orders will be delivered to classes for the children to bring home.
- Exchanges - please come to the reception entrance on Monday or Wednesday morning only to see Mrs Davis. We do anticipate a number of requests for this service, so we kindly ask you to observe the usual social distancing procedures while you wait.
- School uniform is expected unless your child has P.E. in which case they should come in their P.E. kit. **Please note this applies from TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER. All children should attend in normal school uniform on Monday please.**

<b>Monday</b>	Mexico	Nepal	Malta	Ethiopia	Chile
<b>Tuesday</b>	Nepal	Malta	Morocco	Estonia	Congo
<b>Wednesday</b>	Congo	Andorra	Ethiopia	Chile	Ireland
<b>Thursday</b>	Estonia	Morocco	Malta	Monaco	Austria
<b>Friday</b>	Monaco	Mexico	Austria	Andorra	Ireland

- **Your child should NOT bring anything other than a coat, packed lunch, snack and water bottle in with them as required.**

## Medicines:

- Miss Brown will be available on Monday morning at a desk to the left of the main entrance, specifically to receive medicine for children who need this on a long-term basis (i.e. inhalers)
- If you have any medical queries however, please phone or email the school rather than ask in person as you will appreciate we are keeping face to face contact to a minimum.

## Lunches and snacks:

- Children will eat lunch in their classrooms initially. This can be a home packed lunch provided in a normal lunch bag or box by you (as your child will be the only person to handle it in school), or a meal provided by school - payable via SCOPAY.
- The kitchen will be operating a 'picnic' menu throughout September, as they are doing at the infant school. *Please see the attached menu.*



- Healthy snacks (i.e. fruit or vegetables) are encouraged to be brought in with your child for mid-morning, as we will not be running our tuck shop.
- Your child must also bring a named water bottle please as we cannot safely use the shared water fountains.

**General Prevention Strategies (taken from the current school risk assessment and informed by Government guidance):**

- 1) minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, **do not attend school**
- 2) clean hands thoroughly more often than usual using soap and water and/or hand sanitiser; using the wall mounted hand sanitisers located at each internal door, including every classroom door
- 3) ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach; using the lidded bins in and around school, including every classroom
- 4) introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
- 5) minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible; both adults and children are organised into 3 types of bubble: class bubble, year group bubble and phase bubble (upper school and lower school. There will be staggered start times, break times, lunch times and finish times. One way systems and designated pathways identified for bubbles. Considered organisation and mitigation in the use of shared resources. Wherever possible, children will spend the vast majority of their day in just their class bubble
- 6) where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). The current recommendation is that children are not required to wear face coverings. Staff will be encouraged to wear a face shield when they are in other bubble locations that are not their own or for when there may be limited interactions with children within 2m. In addition, they will be encouraged to limit their ‘interaction’ to less than 15 minutes. An example of this would be if the Headteacher visited a classroom to observe.

**Covid symptoms and management procedures:**

- Please refer to the school’s detailed risk assessment but we will be vigilant around trying to identify where children are showing symptoms as early as possible. To assist us, we would ask that you act as the first point of screening and that if your child is unwell and may be showing any of the symptoms, that you err on the side of caution and keep your child at home until either the symptoms pass or they have been tested and a result has been obtained. *Please see the attached guidance regarding response to suspected infection.*
- If your child is showing symptoms whilst in school, they will be sensitively moved to a protective location where they will wait for you to collect. We would ask that you then follow the guidance in getting your child tested as soon as possible.
- Although we will not name any children, we will inform you as a community where there is a positive confirmed case.



## Attendance:

- School attendance is now compulsory and the school is obliged to record attendance and record absences as appropriate. Please leave a message to inform us as soon as possible if your child is unwell.

## After-school clubs:

- There will be no clubs operating during Autumn term.
- Denmead Day Care will be operating a wrap-around childcare service independently, which can be accessed by the walkway around the field side of school building. For more details contact them directly on 07576 275397.

## Office access

- We will be operating a 'remote' office to maintain the integrity of the school building as a 'bubble'. We would therefore encourage you as parents to use the school email [admin.office@denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:admin.office@denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk) and/or to speak to us by phone.
- I am also happy to have brief conversations outside at the beginning or end of the school day.

## Lost property

- Unfortunately, you won't have the same access to lost property as you have had in the past so please can I ask that you name uniform so that it can be more easily returned. We will periodically place lost property outside the front entrance for you to hopefully claim any lost pieces of uniform at regular intervals – we will let you know in advance when we intend to do this. As a note, there is no longer any lost property in the school from the previous year.

## Arrangements for dropping forgotten items in

- There will be 4 boxes located outside the main entrance where forgotten items can be placed. These will be checked daily. Please can you make sure that the forgotten item is labelled clearly.

## Late arrival

If your child arrives late, please can they come to the front entrance where they will be signed in by the office and then taken into class by a member of staff.

I hope this letter proves helpful and gives you all the information you need to feel confident in placing your children in our care.

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Kind regards,

**Mr Andy Clarke**

Head Teacher

