



[info@maryland.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@maryland.newham.sch.uk) 0208 534 8135

Dear Parents/Carers,

School is open! Welcome back.

As you are aware, the government has announced that schools should fully reopen from the start of the upcoming autumn term. They have decided this on the basis of:

- Coronavirus decreasing
- The new NHS test and trace system being in place
- Measures being in place to create safe environments in schools
- Time out of school being detrimental to children's development
- There being a low risk of children becoming severely ill from coronavirus

This means we are planning to open to all of our pupils in September. We have worked hard to make the school a safe, enjoyable environment. We are looking forward to welcoming children back on the following dates:

- **Years 1-6 back on Wednesday 2nd September .**
- **Reception** pupils will begin on **3rd, 4th and 7th September**. Please check the letter you received before the summer holidays for your child's start date.
- **Nursery** will begin on **3rd and 4th September**. Please check the letter you received before the summer holidays for your child's start date.

We wanted to get in touch to explain what you can expect from us and what we will expect from all of our parents and carers.

### **Attendance**

Attendance will be mandatory (legal requirement) in September, as the government expects all pupils to attend school. The usual rules will apply, meaning we will be recording attendance and following up on any absences.

If your children have been staying at home due to the current shielding guidance, the government has paused this guidance on 1st August as there is a continued decline in coronavirus transmission rates. That means they should be able to come back to school in September.

However, if you've received clinical or public health advice that your child should still remain at home, please let us know (we will need to see evidence) and continue to follow that guidance. We'll be offering remote education to these pupils.

### **Safety measures**

Here is what we are doing to minimise risk:

1. Children will stay in their phase group **safety bubble**, to help maintain social distancing. They are Upper KS2 (Years 5 & 6) , Lower KS2 ( Year 3& 4, Infants (Years 1 & 2) , Reception (age 4-5) and Nursery (age 3-4). The children will be taught in their own classrooms.
2. **All staff and visitors** enter through the **main entrance** and pass through a **body temperature control scanner**. This does not tell if someone has coronavirus but will help determine if someone has an elevated temperature and needs further attention.
3. The school day **begins at 8.55am and ends at 3.15pm**. We do not need to stagger our start and finish times due to the number of school gates that we have so have sufficient space for parents to enter..
4. The gates will be open from **8.30am to 9am so there is no congestion at the gates** and **from 3pm to 3.30pm. Please vacate the playgrounds by 3.30pm.**

5. There will be **Welcome Points** in the playgrounds and around the school to indicate where each class should be lining up at the beginning of the day. This is to support social distancing. Senior staff will guide you in the first week.
6. Please note, no equipment such as balls, the activity tower, the trampoline are to be used **before or after** the school day to avoid cross contamination. Your children will need to wait near to you.
7. Children will enter at 8.55am and **clean hands immediately** they enter the premises.
8. There will be **seven sanitiser stations** in each classroom to ensure all children are helped to follow the stricter hygiene routines. All children will have their own **classroom equipment**. All shared equipment will be **sterilised** at the end of each day.
9. The children will **clean their hands thoroughly** more often than usual and have allocated times throughout the day to sanitise and wash their hands.
10. We ask parents **not to sit on benches** whilst dropping off and collecting their children and avoid congregating so we can help maintain social distance.
11. **school leaders will be at the school gates** in the morning from 8.30am to help guide parents and children to their allocated classrooms and deal with any enquiries.
12. keep the **same teachers/TAs** with the **group** as much as possible and **avoid mixing the groups** throughout the day.
13. There is **regular deep cleaning** of the school and equipment **during** the day, **before** and **after** school. Cleaners are using more concentrated cleaning solutions and they have a very strict regimes including door handles, tables, chairs, floors and sinks.
14. **Free School lunch** will be provided for all children -a hot meal service will resume. They will be socially distanced throughout the day.
15. Please note, those children who are bringing in a packed lunch need to ensure the class teacher is made aware.
16. If your child goes home for lunch, then please follow the normal procedure and collect at the main office. Please inform the class teacher that your child will be going home for lunch.
17. Very important - all children should try to bring a **bottle of water/flask** with their name on it. If this is not possible we will provide water served from a cup that **only your child will use..**
18. Before and after school care is available until 6pm if enough children require the service for it to be viable (with personal spacing protocols in place). If interested, please contact **Sandra Wright** (Wright Education) on 07852 137462.
19. We are awaiting advice regarding the reopening of the Children's Centre.
20. Current government guidance states that **face masks** can be worn on the children's **journey to school** (but not in school). If they are **reusable**, they can be **placed in their backpack** for wearing home. If they are **disposable**, they are to be **placed in the lidded bin in the classroom**.
21. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:
  - \***high temperature (37.8)** – hot to touch chest or back
  - \***new, continuous cough** – coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if the person usually has a cough, it may be worse than usual)
  - \***loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – the person cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you or your child develops any of these symptoms the school should be contacted in the first instance and the child should stay at home and a test obtained from NHS. The child's symptoms will be triaged (eg. has the child had inoculations which may have caused a rise in temperature? Is the child prone to colds?) which will help to establish the length of isolation at home.

## **Curriculum**

We appreciate the time and effort parents have put into supporting learning at home. There will be some changes to reflect absence from school during the lockdown.

22. At the beginning of the term, teachers will be carrying out baseline assessments in the form of **quizzes, questions and reviewing work** to find out **what pupils are good at** and **where they may need support**.
23. Teachers will use these baseline assessments to inform their planning and teaching so that topics taught in the previous year can be revisited and consolidated before moving on.
24. The teacher will then discuss strengths and areas to develop for the new year with you at our Parents Evening in the Autumn term. The dates will be confirmed subject to government guidance.
25. Pupils will have a broad and balanced curriculum covering a full timetable of subjects.

## **Pastoral support**

We're aware that the lockdown has been a difficult time for many of us, including our pupils.

Please let us know if you think your children might need extra support when returning to school, such as if they feel anxious about coming back or they're experiencing bereavement. You can get in touch with Mr Lock to do this. Mrs.Skeen is our new Learning Mentor and Mental Health manager who will support children who are possibly suffering trauma from the lockdown using a variety of strategies including emotional coaching and planned activities to focus on mental wellbeing.

## **SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH (SEMH)**

All children will access the recovery curriculum for **Citizenship, Physical, Social and Health Education (CPSHE)**. This has been designed to address possible social reconnection issues after 6months of absence from school, for most of the children. Teachers will aim to address any anxieties and/or difficulties that the long absence may present, in the lessons that have been carefully planned.

## **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND Pupils)**

Mrs Simisaiye was in contact with parents of key SEND pupils during the lockdown and most of our pupils were doing really well. Those that required it, were sign- posted for support to **SEND** agencies. We are still mindful of the fact that some of our pupils with SEND may struggle with reintegration after the long break. Therefore if you feel that your child may have difficulties reintegrating, please contact Mrs Simisaiye for support.

If you have any questions or concerns about the points we've set out above, please get in touch with the school on [info@maryland.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@maryland.newham.sch.uk), or book an appointment with a member of the senior team.

We're extremely grateful for all the support we've received so far from the school community. We'll continue to keep in touch if there are any updates to our plans or if we need to make changes due to new or updated government advice. For more information and guidance parents can visit [gov.uk/backtoschool](http://gov.uk/backtoschool) .

*Warm regards,*

**The Maryland Team**

### **Senior Leaders:**

**Mrs.Jackson - Headteacher**

**Ms Boreham and Mr.Lock - Deputy Head teachers**

**Mrs.Simisaiye and Mrs.Morbin - Assistant Head teachers**

**Miss Spicer - Senior teacher**

**Welfare Team: - Mrs.Qureshi, Mrs.Hassan**

**Family Support: Mrs.Kor and Mrs.Skeen**

**Office - Mrs.Wicks, Mrs.Leon, Mrs.Ansary, Mrs.Kor**

**Nursery Leader - Mrs.Wason**