Dear Parent/Carer

**SEPTEMBER 2020 – RECEPTION INTAKE**

Hopefully you have managed to attend/view some of the online events and know who to contact if you have any questions or concerns in relation to your child starting school.

In light of the pandemic and the constantly updated guidance from the Government and Kent County Council we thought it best to wait before sharing the anticipated arrangements for September. Parents are still not allowed to enter the school so if you have any questions please ring the office or email the teachers and they will get back to you.

School returns on Tuesday 1st September 2020 for a development day, and this is the week the Early Years staff would normally be carrying out home visits to meet with you and your child to find out more about their likes and dislikes and discuss any concerns or issues you may have prior to their entry to school. However due to the virtual home visits already taking place we can confirm that we will be welcoming children into school from Wednesday 2nd September 2020. Year R need to be dropped off at the front of the school by the year R entrance, please follow the signs.

For the first week they will only be in school for a couple of hours to become used to their new surroundings and classroom. Week two will see them stay for lunch for a couple of days before coming in full time from Thursday 10th September 2020. All of the children in year R are entitled to a free school dinner but you can send in a packed lunch (no nuts, including chocolate spread) if you prefer.

There will still be a phased start but this will be shorter than usual and follow the timetable below: -

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Dates | Ladybirds | Bumble Bees |
| 2nd/3rd & 4th September | 10.00 – 12.00 | 10.15-12.15 |
| 7th/8th & 9th September | 9.00-13.00 | 9.15-13.15 |
| Thursday 10th September onwards | Full Time 9.00 – 15:00 | Full Time 9.15 – 15:15 |

To help keep everyone safe we are asking as many parents as possible to walk to school and follow the government guidance by keeping to the strict staggered start and finish times. It is essential you do not arrive too early or late, as we need to keep children in their class groups within school times. We also ask parents to move off the school grounds as soon as possible after drop off and collection, plus remember to follow current social distancing rules whilst on school grounds.

**Driving drop off zones**

Although we would like as many families as possible to walk we know this is not viable for all families so we are introducing a trial driving drop off and collect zone for each phase. At the

end of the day your child will be directed to your car once you reach the front of the car queue.

Year R driving drop off zone is through the main entrance on the left after the zebra crossing. An adult will be available to direct your child to their entrance queue.

In order to keep Main Road free of queues please:

1. Only arrive at your designated times
2. Turn left into Main Road when leaving Gorsewood Road and turn around at the next available opportunity if necessary
3. Do not park in Gorsewood Road, as this needs to be kept as a two way road
4. Merge in turn as you leave the front carpark into Gorsewood Road.
5. Do not park in Main Road where cars are queuing to enter the school

We will do our best to ensure that your child has a happy and positive start to school life. If he/she does appear to be unhappy about anything to do with school please discuss this with the class teacher, or with another relevant member of staff, so that problems can be sorted out quickly.

Yours sincerely



Mrs C Maynard

*Headteacher*