

Marners Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr Nick Hague

8th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a relaxing summer break and that the children are looking forward to starting or returning to school.

In line with government guidance that all children should now return to school and our own risk assessment, what have we put in place to make the school as safe as possible?

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

What are 'bubbles'?

This is strange - but it does not mean a real bubble. At school, we are going to stay in the same group of people all through the school day. We are going to stay together to work, play and eat our lunch. It is being called a 'bubble' because it offers greater protection by not doing things with other groups. It is good to remember that washing our hands, staying apart from other 'bubbles' of children and not touching our face are good ways to keep us all safe.

The children and adults at Marners will be grouped in Year Group bubbles. However, some adults need to be available to deal with a range of situations and may cross into different bubbles if **necessary** to resolve a problem. **Children do not need to wear face masks in school.**

Why are there different START & FINISH times?

We are operating a staggered start and end to the day as we must maintain social distancing rules especially between adults. So, as we will be working in year group 'bubbles' timings are staggered as follows:

Year Group	Start Time	Finish Time
Nursery AM	8:45	11:45
Nursery PM	12:30	3:30
Nursery 30 hours code	8:45	3:30
Reception	9:00	3:00

Where and how do I drop my child off and collect them?

- Nursery and Reception families will enter and leave the school via the Marner Children's Centre car park and enter the Early Years Outdoor Learning Environment.
- We have a one-way system:
 - Families will arrive through the small gate, nearest the children centre and leave through the large car park gate.
- We ask that only one parent/carer collects as space will be at a premium and we are asking for social distancing in the playground and outside the school gates.
- Parents will walk their child to the entrance of their classroom where a member of staff will help the child into the classroom.
- **Due to Covid 19 safety restrictions, parents will not be able to enter the classrooms.**

What if I have more than one child in my family?

Do not worry. We are not expecting you to bring children in or collect them at different times. Family groups can come in together.

All we ask is that when you are bringing your children to school, they should come in with the year group in which you have your eldest child. The entrance to the Early Years Outdoor Learning Environment will be open from 8:45.

At the end of the day when you are collecting your children from school, we encourage you to collect your children from the Early Years playground first before collecting their siblings from the main playground.

There will be staff available to support you with all of this as we all get used to the new system.

What about School uniform

- We expect all Reception children to be wearing school uniform please. The school uniform guide is on the Marner school website. Nursery children should wear appropriate clothes for learning in the Early Years.

How do I know that school is safe? What has changed?

- All staff have worked very hard to ensure that our processes, procedures and our building are robust and safe for children and adults in accordance with government guidelines and our Tower Hamlets and school Risk assessment and Plan.
- We will all be sanitising and washing our hands regularly throughout the day.
- We ask all adults (including parents) to socially distance 2 metres where possible.

What can my child bring to school?

- A water bottle with their name on (we have spares if you don't have one)
- Their book bag/rucksack

What about lunches and playtimes?

- To ensure we remain safely in year group bubbles, we have a different organisation at lunchtimes: there will be a rota of eating in classrooms/the hall and hot/cold food options. Children will be served by staff so as to minimise movement at this time. In the playground we have zones for year groups at different times. Our lunch break is now 45 minutes long.

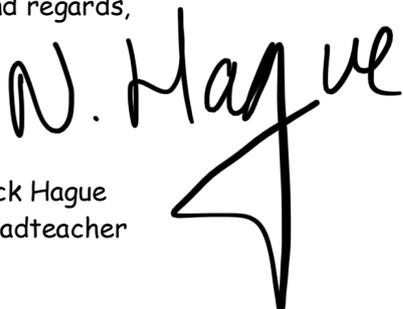
What else?

All our plans will be appropriately staffed and we will be monitoring how things are working. Where things need to be adapted, we will make the necessary changes.

I hope this is clear for everyone, but please do call the office if you have any questions or concerns.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your support, guidance and patience as we all try to navigate through these strange times. Our commitment to the Marner Community is strong and we all want to do the best for the children in our care. I will be slightly increasing the flow of information between home and school so that we can provide you with as much guidance as possible - I will be mindful to keep this to a sensible number of text and newsletters.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Hague". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'H'.

Nick Hague
Headteacher