



Federation of Angel Road Schools & Nursery
Angel Road
Norwich
NR3 3HS
Junior: 01603 425494
Infant: 01603 427113

office@angelroadjunior.norfolk.sch.uk
office@angelroadinfant.norfolk.sch.uk
www.angelroadinfant.co.uk
www.angelroadjunior.norfolk.sch.uk

Coronavirus update- Full opening of school September 2020

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Throughout the Covid-19 situation, it has always been our aim to communicate with you in an open and transparent manner so that you kept up to date with our planning.

This letter sets out our planning for the full opening of our school to all year groups and has been informed by all relevant DFE and Trust guidance with the support of our Trustees and EAT Premises and Health & Safety staff using the Trust Recovery Plan Risk Assessment. This was approved this week.

What will class groups be liked?

- School will operate with a combination of class and year group bubbles.
- Government guidelines allow for adults to move between bubbles but this will be limited.

How will school organise equipment and classrooms?

- We will provide your child with a pack of everyday resources that is for their sole use. (Pen, pencil, ruler etc) Please don't send your child to school with their own resources.
- Shared resources will be limited and cleaned after use.
- PE/ Games equipment will be cleaned between each session.
- All tables will be front facing and side by side and each child will have their own seat.

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e: information@evolutionacademytrust.co.uk t: 01603 981210

- Reading books: each child will have 2 reading books – one that can be taken home and read at home for a week and one to kept in school to read. When reading books have been read, they will be placed in a quarantine box for 72 hours before being put back into circulation.
- Visits to the toilets will be supervised and managed by adults. Only a few children will be able to use the toilets at any one time to allow for social distancing.
- Windows will be open where possible to aid ventilation.
- Children will stay in their classrooms for most of the timetable and movement around the school will be limited.
- There will be no large gatherings, for example, assemblies.

What will the start and end of the day look like?

We will have a staggered start and end to the day to help keep year group bubbles separate.

YEAR 3

Year 3 children will arrive at school at 8.50am and leave school at 3.10pm

- **Year 3 children and parents will enter the school via the Angel Road gate** and parents will leave via the same gate.
- The **Year 3 parent zone** will be on the grass by the Year 3 area and the children will be welcomed into school by a member of the team as they arrive.
- Please maintain social distancing when waiting for your child and use the markings and lanes provided.
- At the end of the day, the Yr3 teachers will line the children up in classes outside and will let them go one at a time once a parent has been spotted. Please wait for them in the parent zone on the grass.

YEAR 4

- **Year 4 children will arrive at school at 9.00am and leave school at 3.20pm**
- Year 4 children and parents will enter the school via the **Rosebery Road gate** and parents will leave via the same gate.
- The **Year 4 parent zone** will be near the Adventure play equipment. Children will line up outside their classrooms ready to be welcomed into school by a member of the team. (4L & 4H entrance near the boys' toilets and 4PK & 4G corner of the veranda.)
- At the end of the day, the teachers will line the children up outside their classrooms and let them go one at a time once a parent has been spotted. If you are happy for your child to make their own way home, please ensure that the class teacher has been informed.
- Please maintain social distancing when waiting for your child and use the markings and lanes provided.

YEAR 5

- **Year 5 children will arrive at school at 9.00am and leave school at 3.20pm**
- Year 5 children and parents will enter and leave via the **Angel Road gate**. The **Year 5 parent zone** will be near the gazebo.
- Year 5 children will line up next to the entrance to school that is opposite the gazebo and will be welcomed into school by a member of the team.
- Please make sure that your child's teacher and your child knows if they are being collected or making their own way home.
- Please maintain social distancing when waiting for your child and use the markings and lanes provided.

YEAR 6

Year 6 children will arrive at school at 8.50am and leave school at 3.10pm

- Year 6 children and parents will enter and leave school via the **Rosebery Road gate**.
- The Year 6 parent zone will be on the football pitch. Children will line up outside their classrooms and will be welcomed into school by a member of their team.
- At the end of the day, children who have permission to make their own way home will be able to leave school via the Rosebery Road gate, children who are being collected will be let go once a parent has been spotted.
- Please make sure that your child's teacher and your child knows if they are being collected or able to make their own way home.
- Please maintain social distancing when waiting for your child and use the markings and lanes provided.

ALL YEAR GROUPS

- Parents shouldn't remain on the school site after drop off and should not arrive early for pick up. For Year 3 and Year 6 parents particularly, there is only 10 minutes before the next year group arrives so swift entrance and exits will be needed.
- To minimise footfall, children must be dropped off and collected by one adult only.
- Please adhere to this strictly. We do not want to offend people by refusing entry.
- Please be mindful of others when entering and exiting the school site.
- Please do not wait for your child along Angel Road as this may lead to difficulties for other children and families around social distancing. If you are collecting your child, please either enter the school and wait in your zone or arrange to meet your child further away from the school.
- Children should line up outside their classroom as soon as they enter the school site.
- If you wish to speak to your child's teacher, please call the office and request a call back or an email or ask them to pass on a message.

- Please keep visits to the school office to a minimum. Please call or email office@angelroadjunior.norfolk.sch.uk if you have questions or need to pass on information.
- If you do need to enter the school, enter via the car park entrance on foot only. Only one adult will be allowed in the reception area at one time and you will be required to sanitise your hands and maintain 2m distance from the office team. Please be patient and anticipate you may have to wait outside even if it's raining.
- This is not the way that we like to operate as we like to build close relationships with our families, but we are responding to the current situation and hope this helps give you confidence that we are prioritising your child's and our communities safety.
- Unfortunately, due to keeping year group bubbles separate, children will not be able to bring scooters or bikes into school. If this is going to be a particular problem for your child because of the distance they have to travel, please call the school office to discuss.
- You must closely supervise your child whilst on site until they line up or handover has happened. Please ensure that any younger children are carefully supervised and kept next to you at all times.

What about cleaning and hygiene?

- We will have a member of the cleaning team on site throughout the day cleaning touch points, hard surfaces and toilets on a rota basis.
- Our regular cleaning team will ensure that classrooms are cleaned before the beginning of the next day.
- School has been closed to all non-essential visitors during this time and this will remain in place for September.
- Children will wash their hands regularly throughout the day including: on arrival, after break, before lunch, after lunch and before they leave school at the end of the day.
- Children can bring in their own soap and moisturiser but it must be clearly labelled and not shared with others.
- Children will be encouraged not to touch their faces and to use the Catch it! Bin it! Kill it approach.
- All classrooms will have a cleaning pack, hand sanitiser, tissues and a lidded bin.

What will break and lunchtimes look like?

- We will have two year groups outside at break at one time and they will have their own area of the outside space to play. We will be encouraging the children to socially distance at this time.
- At lunchtime, children who have a home or school packed lunch will eat their lunch in one of the year group classrooms supervised by a MSA.

- Children who have a hot dinner will eat in the canteen. In the canteen, children will sit on every other chair so that they are not directly facing another person.
- **Please note, for the first two weeks the canteen will only be providing packed lunches. Please order in the usual way if you would like a school packed lunch.**
- Each year group will have a separate area of the canteen which will be cleaned between sittings.
- Children will have time to play outside at lunchtime within their year group and within their allocated space.
- Children who are eligible for FSM will continue to receive vouchers via the Edenred scheme over the Summer holidays.

Will children need to wear school uniform?

- Children should wear school uniform as usual.
- On days when your child has PE/ Games, please send them to school in their PE kit so that they do not need to get changed. Your child will bring a timetable home with them within the first week.
- All children will need warm tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirt as the weather gets colder. We will try to ensure that children do Games outside whenever possible.
- Please send your child to school every day with a filled water bottles as water fountains are not in use. This must only be drinking water and not flavoured waters or squash.

What are the expectations around attendance?

- All children are expected to attend full time in line with the EAT attendance policy and the government guidance.
- If you are anxious about your child attending school, please phone the school and we will discuss your concerns.

Will Breakfast Club and After school Club be running from September?

- We are working towards being able to offer this provision by the **last week of September**.
- We recognise the importance of this provision to our families and we are currently putting together a plan based on Government guidance and advice from the Trust.
- We will communicate our plans as soon as possible after the start of term.

Will anyone be wearing masks?

- If you wear a mask in the community, we ask that you remove your child's mask before entering the building.
- Staff will wear PPE when administering first aid or if a child displays symptoms of Covid-19 and needs supervising.

- Many children will be familiar with the sight of PPE from the television. Please make your child aware that there may be times when school staff may need to wear PPE to protect themselves.

What will happen if a child or member of staff shows symptoms of Covid-19?

- If any child or adult shows symptoms they will be taken to an isolation room until they can be collected by their parents. The adult will be asked to leave the school site immediately.
- Anyone with Covid-19, including their household, should self-isolate and should get tested as soon as possible. Please notify the school of the result straight away.
- All necessary areas will be deep cleaned.
- The parents of other children in the same bubble will be notified.
- Parents must have arrangements that their child can be collected within an hour if they become 'symptomatic'. We recommend you share this information with your employer if relevant.

Social distancing

- We strongly encourage all children and adults to socially distance whenever possible.

Curriculum

- We will be providing the children with a broad and balanced curriculum across the year whilst recognising the importance of focussing on the core skills of reading, writing and maths.
- We will also be mindful that children may be feeling anxious about returning to school so we will build in time to talk and share our feelings.
- We will be developing our online resources and teaching the children digital skills so that we can effectively shift to online learning again if the need arises.
- We will be providing you with further details regarding our curriculum in September.

Behaviour

- There will be some routines in school that are new to the children and are necessary to keep us all as safe as possible, however, all our previous expectations around behaviour and the way we treat each other still apply.
- We will expect all children to follow these.
- Please support the school with these by speaking to your child before the beginning of term so they understand their importance.
- We will be teaching the children the new routines in September.

- We are beginning the year with a focus on HIGH EXPECTATIONS. We absolutely do not expect children to get everything right straight away so please reassure them they WILL NOT 'get into trouble' for forgetting or misunderstanding. Over time, they will learn our new habits. We know some children will really worry and dislike being 'wrong' or making mistakes. Please reassure them that we are here to teach and support them. It is a lot for young people to take on, but in our experience, children are often much better than adults at quickly learning new habits.
- This being said – we will take a very strong stance on any child or parent that **deliberately** uses risky behaviour, for example – spitting, coughing towards others, defying social distancing expectations or saying frightening or disturbing things about COVID to create fear in others. It is important that you talk to your child about this. We reserve the right to isolate children whose behaviour puts their peers or our staff at risk.

I hope you have found this information helpful and that it helps you feel confident about your child's full time return to school. Please keep it in a safe place and talk to your children about it. We strongly believe that working in partnership with you and your child is the best way to keep our school and community COVID secure. We look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Yours sincerely

Alison Whalen

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Head of School

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