

**WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORATE**

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**DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL
FOCKBURY ROAD
DODFORD
BROMSGROVE
(01527) 831569
28th August 2020**

September 2020 Opening

Dear Parents,

We are fast approaching our return to school next week and we are all looking forward to seeing all of the children back in school. We have been working hard on putting extra measures into place to ensure the safety of both the children and staff at the school and the school's risk assessment has been amended and approved by Worcestershire Children's First and the Department of Health to enable us to open our doors to all of our pupils next week.

The new 'normal' way of working though at the school has had to change quite considerably and therefore will look very different to our pupils who have not been on site since March and will still look a little different for those who were able to attend. We are also acutely aware that for some of our pupils and parents this is quite an unnerving time after such a long period of absence from the school but please be assured that everything that we have put into place, the environment, the routines and rules and the curriculum has been done to help and support a smooth transition back into school that is as welcoming and enjoyable as any other year. The document from the school attached to this letter is very lengthy but hopefully covers any questions that you may have about your child's return or new start at the school. Any concerns or questions which are not answered within the document can be directed towards myself and I will answer then as fully as possible for you. No question is a silly one if it is one that is left unanswered by the document that we have produced.

More details about the curriculum we will be delivering in the Autumn term and how we are intending to support your involvement in school will be following in the next couple of weeks as our main priority in the early days will be settling your child back into school and helping them adjust to the new routines and build on their friendships and relationships with staff again.

Please see the link below, which takes you to the government's guidance for parents about schools re-opening in September.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

A quick summary of timings and what your child needs to bring to school is listed below but much more detailed information is included in the attached document, all of this will also be going on the school website.

School Day

Term starts on Thursday 3rd September for Years 1 to 4 only

Years 3 and 4 – 8.40am – 3.20pm

Years 1 and 2 – 8.50am – 3.10pm

Reception – 9.00am - 3.00pm (once the transition period is over)
Younger siblings to enter and leave school with older siblings

Attending school

Children to wear full uniform

PE kits and trainers to remain at home and worn all day on a Friday

All children to have a coat, filled water bottle and a small bag/book bag each day

No books or toys from home are allowed in school

If a school lunch has been ordered, this will be delivered to school by Cupcakes, otherwise children need to bring in a packed lunch in a lunchbox which will go home each day, along with their water bottle to be washed out and refilled.

Children will be able to refill their water bottle at school but they will not be able to use the water fountain.

Please remember that we are here to answer any of your concerns and if anything has happened during your time away from us that may have had an impact on your child's mental health and wellbeing or still is, then we really need to know so that we can support your child whilst they are with us during the school day.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lisa Parkes