



Harriers Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

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Dear parents and carers

I hope you and your family have had a lovely summer holidays.

We are really looking forward to welcoming all of our pupils back to school on Monday 6th September. For several years now our mission has been 'Learning to Fly', meaning our pupils learn the knowledge and skills and acquire the personal attributes to achieve their best at school and beyond. This year, after such a turbulent period which has affected their education, we are going to ask our pupils to push themselves even further into their challenge zone and fly even higher... in fact, we want them to go stratospheric! We are setting ourselves high standards to ensure, first and foremost, that all pupils return to school happy and safe, and then to support them to accelerate their learning and fill any gaps they may have from the past 18 months. We look forward to working with all pupils and you, their families, over the coming academic year to achieve these aims.

As of 18th August 2021, the government has eased most restrictions surrounding Covid-19 and this is reflected in the new guidance for schools. We are delighted that we will be able to remove many guidelines we had in place last year and we are looking forward to a 'normal' school year. In particular, we are looking forward to being able to host more events, have parents and families on site and allow the children more freedoms to play and learn together. Please rest assured, however, that all changes are made as per an updated risk assessment and will be considered as a proportionate response to the risks posed by Covid-19, meaning that we have a contingency framework in place that will see some restrictions reintroduced if local or national cases rise past a certain level.

Below I have summarised the main changes. This list is not exhaustive so please contact the office via email or speak to a member of SLT on the school site on Monday if you have a specific question.

Main points:

- On site education is now mandatory for all pupils, unless they have written exemption on medical grounds from a doctor.
- Good ventilation and good hygiene and cleaning are essential to preventing the spread of Covid-19, we will therefore continue to keep all rooms well ventilated, hand sanitisers and increased handwashing in place and daily enhanced cleaning will continue.
- You should continue to not send your child into school if they have the main symptoms for Covid-19.
- Children under 16 or adults who have received both vaccinations do not have to isolate if they are a close contact to a positive case. They would be asked to take a PCR test but do not need to isolate whilst they wait for the result. This means classes will not be closed if there is a positive case.
- Contact tracing is now conducted by the government's track and trace service, not the school.
- Pupils and staff will no longer be in bubbles and can mix with other classes and year groups.
- Masks/face coverings are no longer recommended - only in crowded spaces with unfamiliar people (e.g. public transport). Adults will therefore not be required to wear one on site, but may do if they wish to do so. Social distancing is still recommended where possible.
- Staff will continue to complete a lateral flow test and report the results twice a week.
- Assemblies will resume in the hall. We will not hold whole school assemblies at this stage. All assemblies, including Friday's Celebration Assembly, will be held as Lower Phase (Years 1-3) and Upper Phase (Years 4-6). Parents/Carers will be invited to attend on a Friday if their child is a High Flyer.



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Managing Director: Steve Kenning



- Normal lunch arrangements will resume in the canteen, with Takeaway Friday in classes.
- PE kit days have been popular and will remain. Pupils must wear the correct plain navy PE kit.
- Seesaw will remain and will be a point of contact for teachers and parents, but you may speak to teachers face to face at the end of the day if necessary.
- Educational trips and visitors are free to continue after resuming in the summer term.
- Parents evenings will be online, but open afternoons will give parents/carers the opportunity to come into the classrooms, see their child's work and speak to teachers or TAs informally.
- Continue to contact the office via email or phone, where possible. We will continue to restrict access in person.
- Afterschool club will now stay open until 5:30pm. Breakfast and Afterschool Club will continue to be pre-booked, for the term.
- Adults dropping off pupils can now access the site from 8:40am and wait for doors to open at 8:45am (8:30am for Nursery morning session).
- Adults can wait on the school site to collect a child/children from 3pm.
- Adults and pupils can use either pedestrian entrance or exit.
- Harriers View remains out of bounds for vehicle access for school drop off or pick up without permission for the school.
- Class exit and entry points will remain as at the end of last year.

See the tables below for class entry and exit times and points.

School start and finish times

Year Group(s)	Drop off time/window	Collection time (Mon - Thur)	Collection time (Friday)	Collection time (Friday Homework Club**)
Nursery*	8:30am	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm
Reception	8:50am	3:00pm	2:00pm	3:00pm
Years 1-3	8:45 - 8:55am	3:10pm	2:10pm	3:10pm
Years 4-6	8:45 - 8:55am	3:15pm	2:15pm	3:15pm

*Nursery times given are for full-time pupils, they vary for part-time pupils. Contact the office if unsure.

**Pre-booked only, and for the entire term. Bookings for Term 6 will open soon.

Class entrances & exits

Class	Entrance/Exit
Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & Year 2	Classroom doors
Year 3 (Kingfishers)	Classroom door onto playground
Year 3 (Toucans)	Classroom door onto Bloxham Rd side of school
Year 4 (Red Kites)	Middle door onto playground
Year 4 (Parrots)	Classroom door onto Bloxham Rd side of school
Year 5	Door near the hall onto car park
Year 6 (Owls)	Middle door onto playground
Year 6 (Eagles)	Top corridor door onto playground

The full updated government guidance for parents/carers can be found here:

<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>

As mentioned before, this is a proportionate response to the present Covid-19 levels. If the risk changes, then we would consult with Public Health England and potentially reimpose some measures, such as bubbles or masks.

I hope you all enjoy the last few days of the holidays. All staff are back in school tomorrow for the first of our two INSET days. We have a packed agenda to share and discuss how we can make the most of this school year and ensure all our pupils have a fantastic year!

Flying high - Going stratospheric!

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Pearson', with a small flourish at the end.

Alex Pearson
Executive Principal