



Grampian Primary Academy

Grampian Way, Sinfin, Derby, DE24 9LU Phone & Fax: 01332 765546
e-mail: admin@grampian.derby.sch.uk
Website: www.grampian.derby.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs. M. Murfin



National 'Outstanding Winner'
21st Century Learning Alliance Award

Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

After an unexpected start to 2021, it is almost time for us to come back together in school to continue the fantastic learning completed at home during this period. Since the government's announcement that school will reopen to all pupils on **Monday 8th March 2021**, staff have been working hard to ensure that all current guidance is considered carefully so that the children's return to school is safe for all. Please find below some key information about the school day, the curriculum and the expectations of parents, carers and children.

Attendance

As of Monday 8th March 2021, attendance becomes compulsory for all children unless they are unable to do so due to illness or for reasons related to COVID-19. If your child is unable to attend school, please ensure that you contact the school office in order to inform them of this and the reason why.

The School Day

Start of the school day

In order to ensure that the school site is as safe as possible at the start of the school day, we shall return to the staggered drop-off times from the Autumn term. This will allow us to reduce the number of parents, carers and children entering and leaving the site at any given time. We will continue to use the two gates as separate entry points and ask everyone to leave site via the staff car park. Parents and carers will not be able to enter the school building. Parents, carers and pupils will be met by staff inside the school gates. Grown-ups will be asked to say goodbye leave via the car park. School staff will be on the playground and various doors into school to welcome the children each day. Before entering school, the children will be asked to sanitise their hands.

- 8:45-9:00am
 - Year 1 & Year 2 pupils enter the school site via the front gate on Grampian Way.
 - Year 5 & Year 6 pupils to enter the school site via the side gate on Glengarry Way.
- 9:00-9:15am
 - Nursery & Reception pupils enter the school site via the front gate on Grampian Way
 - Year 3 & Year 4 pupils enter the school site via the side gate on Glengarry Way.

End of the day

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As with the start of the day, we will need to stagger how the children are dismissed at the end of the day. Parents and carers will collect their children from the same place they dropped them off at the start of the day. Everyone will leave the school site via the staff car park.

- 3:00-3:15pm
 - Year 1 & Year 2 to be collected via the front gate on Grampian Way.
 - Year 5 & Year 6 to be collected via the side gate on Glengarry Way.
- 3:15-3:30pm
 - Nursery & Reception pupils enter the school site via the front gate on Grampian Way
 - Year 3 & Year 4 pupils to be collected via the side gate on Glengarry Way.

These arrangements for the start and end of the school day are fundamental. Parents and carers can take positive steps to protect the school community by ensuring that they are only on the school site during the allocated times, and enter and leave swiftly. Whilst on the school site, parents and carers will be expected to socially distance from other people that you do not live with and wear a face covering. In order to limit the volume of people on the school site, we ask that only one adult comes onto the school site to drop-off or collect the children. We thank you in advance for your co-operation in this.

Playtime and Lunchtime

As in the Autumn term, playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered and organised in a way that minimises the risk of the class bubbles crossing. As in the Autumn term, we will not be offering a tuck shop so we would encourage all parents to send their child to school with an appropriate, healthy snack that can be eaten during the morning playtime.

Uniform

It is expected that all children return to school in appropriate uniform and with the equipment that they need for the day, including their coat, book bag, water bottle, reading book and reading record. As the weather begins to warm up, children should also bring a sun hat and sun cream. Please ensure that all uniform is labelled with your child's name so that it can be returned if misplaced. On your child's P.E. days, they should come into school wearing their P.E. kit. A copy of the school's uniform policy can be found on the school website. It is really important that the children do not bring other things in from home as we make every effort to keep school a safe place for everyone. As in the Autumn term, children will have their own equipment and stationary for use during the day.

Hygiene

Staff and children will continue the hygiene routines established in the Autumn term, washing and/or sanitising hands at key transition points throughout the school day.

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The Curriculum

During this third lockdown, many of us will have experienced a detrimental impact on our physical and mental health due to the shorter days and colder weather. Returning to school as Spring arrives offers an excellent opportunity to spend more time in the outdoors. In order to make the most of this, we have made the decision that our curriculum focus for the weeks and months ahead will be physical development and wellbeing. All children in Year 1 to Year 6 will have 2 P.E. lessons each week. This means that they will arrive in school in their P.E. kit twice a week – we send a text next week confirming the PE days for each class.

In addition, playtimes and lunchtimes will have an active focus with structured, coach-led games and activities. Alongside this, we will also focus on our mental and emotional health as part of our PSHE curriculum, reflecting on our experiences and identifying strategies to maintain and improve our wellbeing. We will share some resources with you that you may wish to use at home to support these important conversations with your children.

Other Reminders and Information

World Book Day – 4th March 2021

This year, World Book Day falls whilst school is closed to the majority of children. For this reason, we have made the decision that we will not dress up to mark this occasion. However, we have prepared plenty of fun activities that will enable all children, both in school and at home, to celebrate books and their enjoyment of reading. Information about this will be uploaded to the school website in due course.

British Science Week – 5th to 14th March 2021

On the 5th March, British Science Week begins. In recent years, this has become an exciting event in Grampian's calendar and has provided many enriching experiences for the children. This year, we have made the decision to make practical, enquiry-based learning the theme for the week beginning with the Great Grampian Bread Bake Off! We will come together to celebrate food science, both at home and in school, before embarking on more scientific discovery the following week. Chef Mark is busy creating bake-at-home packs, which will be available for collection prior to the day. The collection times will be communicated to you via text and to the children through their live lessons, Tapestry and Seesaw.

There is also another reason why we have chosen to launch the British Science Week with something baking and food related. Friday 5th March will be Chef Mark's last day in school. We will be very sad to see him go and he will be missed greatly by the children (and many families too). Chef Mark and his family are moving to Australia which is going to be a

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very exciting adventure for them all. Although we will miss him, and his fabulous lunches, we wish him and his family all the very best.

As children return to school on 8th March, Science will continue to be the theme of the week, incorporating many opportunities for reading, writing, maths and all-important reconnection for the children. Throughout this week, our aim is to break down STEM stereotypes, as every child will become a scientist and develop new skills for working scientifically! Please ensure that you keep an eye on our social media channels to see what the children have been doing.

Parent's Evening

Parents evening will take place on Monday 29th March and Tuesday 30th March. These appointments will be virtual via the SchoolCloud system which we used in the Autumn term. A letter confirming how to use the booking system will be sent out to families during week commencing the 15th March.

Term Dates and INSET Days

Spring Term: 8th March 2021 to 30th April 2021

Summer Term 1: 19th April 2021 to 28th May 2021

Summer Term 2: 7th June 2021 to 21st July 2021

INSET Days and Bank Holidays

31st March 2021

1st April 2021

3rd May 2021 (May Day)

22nd July 2021

We hope that this information answers many of your questions or queries you may have as you prepare for your children returning to school. Thank you for your ongoing support throughout this period of lockdown and we very much look forward to welcoming you all back into the fold on Monday 8th March 2021. Until then, please continue to consult the school website and social media channels where further useful information may be posted for you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Murfin

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