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Alton Infant School
Sowing the seeds of learning



Headteacher: Mr Richard Mead

Friday 27th August 2021

Dear parents

I hope you are all well and are enjoying the last of the summer break. Wasn't it lovely to finally see some sunshine!

Although we still have to act with a level of caution, now that COVID restrictions have been lifted, I just wanted to update you with the final details for September. Just as a reminder, **Year 1 and 2 start back to school on Thursday 2nd of September and the new Reception children on Monday 6th of September.**

Drop-off and pick-up at the beginning and the end of the day.

Pick-up and drop-off for all year groups will now be from the front of the school. We will no longer be using the back gates in the staff car park.

Reception - Elm and Willow Class.

Please use the left hand wooden gate (as you face the school building), for both drop-off and pick-up.

For morning drop-off, the gate will be open from 8.40am until 8.55am. You may come into the Reception outdoor area and then drop your children at either the Elm or Willow classroom door. Classroom doors will be opened by a member of staff from 8.45am. There will always be members of staff around to welcome you and your children.

Once the Reception children are in school full-time, for pick-up, the gates will be open from 3.10pm. The children can then be picked up from either Elm or Willow classroom door at 3.15pm.

We understand that over the first few days of term, your Reception child may need you to help them settle into school. However, we would encourage you to let your child enter their classroom independently as soon as they are able. Please be assured that our experienced Reception staff will always be on hand to welcome and help your child into school.

Year 1 - Pine and Ash Class.

Please use the right hand wooden gate (as you face the school building), for both drop-off and pick-up.

For morning drop-off, the gate will be open from 8.40am until 8.55am. You may then come into the main playground and then drop your children at either the Pine or Ash classroom door (by the wooden play ship). Classroom doors will be opened by a member of staff from 8.45am. We would be grateful if you

could not enter the school building in order for your child to independently enter their classroom. Please be assured that our experienced Year 1 staff will always be on hand to welcome and help your child into school.

For pick-up at the end of the day, the gates will be open from 3.10pm. You may then come into the main playground where your children can then be picked up from either Pine or Ash classroom door at 3.15pm.

Year 2 - Beech and Oak Class

For **Beech Class**, please use the right hand wooden gate (as you face the school building), for both drop-off and pick-up. For morning drop-off, the gate will be open from 8.40am until 8.55am. You may then come into the main playground and drop your child at the door at the side of the building by the trim trail. This door will be opened by a member of staff at 8.45am and then the children can go straight to their classroom.

For pick-up at the end of the day for **Beech Class**, the wooden gate will be open from 3.10pm. You may then come into the main playground to the school entrance by the trim trail, where your children will be ready for pick-up at 3.15pm.

For **Oak Class**, please use the front main entrance to the school for both drop-off and pick-up. For morning drop-off, this door will be opened by a member of staff at 8.45am and will remain open until 8.55am. The children can then go straight to their classroom.

For pick-up at the end of the day for **Oak Class**, please come to the front main entrance of the school, where your children will be ready for pick-up at 3.15pm.

We would be grateful if you could not enter the school building in order for your child to independently enter their classroom. Please be assured that our experienced Year 2 staff will always be on hand to welcome and help your child into school.

Picking up siblings.

At home time, older siblings within the school, will move to their younger brother or sister's classroom ready for you to pick up. This will make pick-up easier as you will only have to go to one place in order to collect your children.

COVID updates.

We would be grateful if you could continue to wear face masks and to socially distance wherever possible whilst on the school site.

The children will no longer be in bubbles, which means that large groups of children will not be sent home should someone at school test positive for COVID. Children who have been a close contact of a positive case, will no longer need to self-isolate. Instead, if children are contacted by NHS Test and Trace because of a close contact, they will be advised to take a 'booked' PCR test. Self-isolation will only occur if this PCR test is positive.

Good hygiene, cleaning regimes and the ventilation of occupied spaces will still be in place.

Although staff have been double vaccinated, they will continue to test twice a week.

Contingency measures will be put into place should there be a significant outbreak of COVID in school.

Communications - As another measure to keep COVID-safe, please continue to use ClassDojo to communicate non-urgent matters to the class teachers, rather than having a number of face to face conversations. However, please use the school's telephone line on 01420 83857 to report absences. As last term, we will be minimising the number of adults in the school building, so, as a first preference, please communicate with the school either electronically or by telephone.

PE Kits.

Please can your children continue to wear their school PE kit to school on PE days. At the beginning of term, class teachers will let you know the PE days for each class. As the weather gets colder, the children can wear PE joggers and their school sweatshirt.

I hope that you enjoy the rest of the break and the staff and I look forward to seeing you next week and the week after - the 2nd of September for Year 1 and 2 and the 6th of September for Reception children.

Kind regards

Richard Mead
Headteacher



