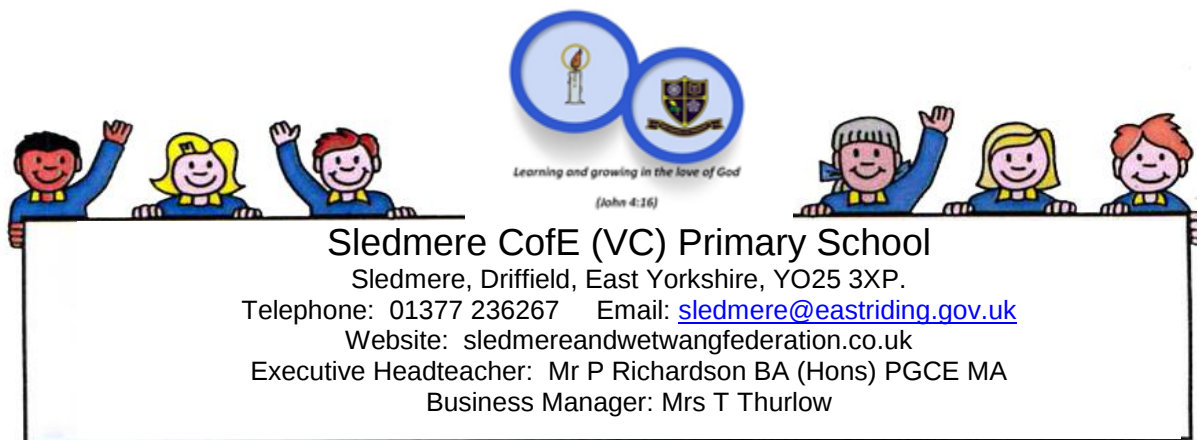




3rd March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to inform you about our plans for **Monday 8th March**, when we are again open to all pupils. Despite the challenges of the last couple months, we are prepared for the full opening and eager to welcome back every child.

Attendance

School attendance will be mandatory from 8th March. We look forward to welcoming back all children.

Bubble structure

Children will return to the class bubbles we had prior to Christmas with:

- Class1
- Class 2
- Class 3

Protective Measures – Hands/Face/Space

Here are some important reminders which will help us to keep everyone as safe as possible:

- Punctuality is critical in the smooth running of our schools.
- Pupils are dropped off and collected by only one adult.
- Parents/ carers to drop off (8.55am)/ collect (3.30pm) at the same locations and times - maintaining social distance at all times.
- Parents/ carers must not gather at gates/ entrances.
- Parents/ carers must not enter the building unless by prior appointment. (This includes Breakfast and After School Club.)

System of Controls

The system of controls provides a set of principles and by following this advice, we will effectively continue to minimise risks:

1. Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have symptoms, or live with someone who does, do not attend school. This applies to children, staff and visitors
2. Ensure face coverings are worn in recommended circumstances
3. Hand hygiene - washing hands thoroughly and more frequently than usual
4. Respiratory hygiene - Catch It, Bin It, Kill It approach to coughs and sneezes for everyone
5. Maintain enhanced cleaning arrangements, particularly of frequently touched surfaces or shared spaces – classroom surfaces and touch points. Other enhanced cleaning undertaken daily
6. Minimising contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible
7. Always keep occupied spaces well ventilated

In specific circumstances schools should:

8. Ensure individuals wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) where appropriate
9. Promote and engage in asymptomatic testing, where available

Wellbeing

Our intention on the wider return of your children is to spend a little time with every pupil to find out how they are been feeling during lockdown and to discuss their learning and any anxieties with them. We are aware that, for some children, returning to school may feel a lot like the start of a new year. With this in mind, staff are going to prioritise well-being and relationships. Our plans have built in opportunities to focus on relationships and speaking and listening. Well-being of all is a priority.

Curriculum

Our aim is to continue to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum in all subjects. Initially, we will aim to cover the most important content which pupils may not be secure in. We will support every child with carefully crafted activities. If the weather is good we will aim to spend lots of time outside too.

Enrichment

As a school staff, we have already been thinking about ways to make the return to school as enjoyable as possible. This means continuing with high quality lessons and stimulating ways to make lessons come alive. We are actively thinking of ways to enrich the remaining time at school. At this stage, these plans are in their infancy as we do not know what we will be able to organise in Summer. We will update you as soon as we are able.

Uniform

Children are expected to wear school uniform unless we inform you otherwise. Uniforms do not need to be cleaned more often than usual or using different methods. I appreciate that many children may have grown out of uniform. If this is the case please let us know. (Please send in PE kits on a Monday and we will ask the children to bring them home on a Friday.)

Wrap around care

Breakfast Club is available from 8am. We will run After-School Club until 5.30pm Monday – Thursday and to 4.30pm on Fridays. We will try to keep the children in the same bubble they are in during the day, as far as possible.

Bus

The Bus will operate as usual. Children 11 and over are expected to wear a face covering.

Charges

Please note the amended charges from 1st April. This is available on our website -

https://www.sledmereandwetwangfederation.co.uk/useful_information/charges/charges.html

Tapestry and Seesaw

Teachers will continue to use these platforms to communicate with children for homework or utilise them again should we be in the position to have to close a class bubble. We have had some very positive feedback about their use and they have enabled us to continue to support every child's learning and to celebrate their successes.

ZOOM

Reverend Jacki will continue with her Wednesday Collective Worship. We intend to hold Celebration Assemblies via ZOOM once a month. We will confirm the details in a later letter.

Feeling unwell

I'd also like to remind you that if your child or anybody in your household feels unwell and may have Coronavirus, you should follow this advice. To book a free COVID-19 test, visit the NHS website or phone the NHS on 119:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Please don't send your child into school if they have:

- A high temperature
- Have a new, continuous cough
- Lost their sense of smell or taste or it's changed

Lateral Flow Tests

The DfE have announced that whole families and households with primary school children, including childcare and support bubbles, will be able to test themselves twice every week from home as schools return from 8th March. We are awaiting details, but here is a link to their press release -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-households-with-children-of-school-aged-to-get-rapid-covid-19-tests-per-person-per-week>

The staff and children who have been attending school are really looking forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday. Please take care and should you have any questions or wish to share any information with us please get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Richardson

Executive Headteacher