



Soaring Skies Federation



Monday 24th August 2020

Dear Thomas Fairchild pupils and families,

I hope you are keeping safe and well and have enjoyed the summer break so far.

We are looking forward to welcoming back pupils from Years 1 to 6 on Monday 7th September at 8.55am. Early Years pupils will return on their allocated dates which they have been notified of separately.

Naturally, it will be strange for all of us to return as a whole school. I understand you and your children may have anxieties about this return. I would like to reassure you that we are determined to ensure a strong return to school and confirm our aspiration for your child to be the best they can be. Specifically we have:

- planned the reopening of school in detail from the curriculum offer and classroom environments to ensuring enhanced hygiene and safety routines are followed and children are supported emotionally with their adjustment to being at school full time.
- carried out an updated risk assessment for all areas of the school and all aspects of the school day.
- completed an enhanced deep clean of the school building.

Once your child starts in September, we will reconnect with the full curriculum swiftly with appropriate input for any gaps in learning.

A number of changes will be in place from September to ensure we minimise risk from Coronavirus:

- 1) Directed time for teachers will now be on a Friday afternoon, from Friday 11th September. The educational benefit will be your child receiving a consistent offer from the same teacher for the remaining 4 and a half days. This is particularly important for your child's education in respect of the teaching time lost since March. We will also conduct a weekly deep clean during this time.

In order to release teachers for their directed time, we will be closing school at 1pm (after school lunch) each Friday, from the 11th September.

If you are unable to collect your child at 1pm, we will have limited capacity to supervise children during Friday afternoon. The school office will send out a reminder text on Monday 7th September to ask parents who require this facility to inform the school so we can make suitable arrangements.

- 2) Breakfast and after school clubs will commence from Monday 7th September. **Please contact the school office for details.**
- 3) There will be separate entrances for year groups to reduce congestion at the playground gate. You will receive a text next week to remind you of your child's entrance (and where they will also exit the building at the end of the school day).
- 4) Unfortunately, parents and carers will not be permitted on the school premises at the start or finish of the school day to minimise social contact between different families. Different arrangements will be in place for Nursery and Reception pupils to enable them to settle in.
- 5) There will not be any 'communal' activities such as school assemblies or 'House Reading'.

If you have any concerns or questions about our September restart, please e-mail the school office: admin@thomasfairchild.hackney.sch.uk

I hope you enjoy the final two weeks of this summer break and we look forward to coming together as a school community again.

Stay safe and well,

Miss Haidar

Head of School