

Dear Reception Parents,

We hope you and your families are well and that you are as excited as us at the thought of your child joining us in Reception in September 2020. As we explained on the Zoom Meeting a few weeks ago, we have had to revise some of our systems in response to the evolving government guidelines regarding COVID-19. In addition to the general communication to all our parents today, please let us elaborate on some specific information for the Reception class for the first few days of school.

### **Start of the 2020/21 School Year - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September**

We originally said that the Reception day will start at 9am. We have now reviewed this in order to ensure that our Reception parents are able to settle their children into class and socially distance from one another. A timetable is attached to this email detailing which of our staggered start times you should bring your child for on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> September. We will be sending the password in a separate email to maintain confidentiality.

You will notice that we have allowed a 20-minute slot to allow you to bring your child to the Reception class and, hopefully, wave them off quickly into the room. Parents are still not allowed into the classroom but you will be able to enter the covered outside area to make an easy and painless entry into the room (positivity is key!). We understand that you and your child may feel nervous and will be as sensitive as we can, whilst still having to maintain the necessary social distancing and follow all government guidelines. The staggered start will be in place for the first two days of school, and from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September we expect the children will be able to be brought to the school gates between 8.15-8.40am and then walked to the Reception classroom by the Reception Team.

### **Home time**

As previously stated, the earlier finishing time will continue as planned at 2pm until Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

Our COVID-secure process for collecting children is as follows:

- Parents/Carers should arrive at the school gates at the collection time for their **oldest child** e.g. if you are collecting children from Years 1, 3 and 5, you should arrive at 3.50pm. Please do not enter the premises earlier, as we wish to avoid anyone congregating on the premises.
- On arrival you should please maintain social distancing from the moment you leave your car, until you return to it with the children.
- Once you enter the school gates, please head towards the left-hand side of the building and walk around the building in a loop back to the gate, picking your children up en route. Please do not deviate from a single-file path, and your children will be directed to join you as you pass along the route. On 2<sup>nd</sup> September, we will be sending you a link to an informational film clip to model this process – don't worry, it's easier than we can put in words!
- If you are bringing younger siblings, they must stay with you at all times – they must not wander around the playground as we are trying to enforce strict social distancing measures.
- Please listen to the instructions of the staff and parent marshals who will be there to guide you.

### **Coffee Morning**

We realise that an important part of your child joining Reception at Sacks Morasha is the sense of belonging to the Sacks Morasha family and, due to COVID-19, this may feel a little lacking at the moment. We are planning a virtual coffee morning at some point in the first few weeks of term to

allow everyone to properly meet each other and to give you a chance to ask any questions you may have.

With best wishes for an enjoyable, restful and energising summer,

Mrs Gross and Mr Kett