

Barley Lane School

Friendship, Optimism, Hardwork

7th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children and young people return to school tomorrow but do so in their class groups as small schools with in a school.

Good hygiene and reliable social distancing and keeping the children in their “mini-schools” or pods and moving around the school safely, all these rely on good behaviour and in short good behaviour allows safe behaviour.

This isn't always easy to achieve in our setting but staying open as we did when many schools not unreasonably chose to close meant we had to incrementally manage and respond to steadily growing numbers of pupils and develop safe ways of working from site modifications to learning , eating and playing together differently that is an enormous help now.

Work has continued over the summer to significantly modify the buildings and plan a new timetable but most importantly with only two necessary and sensible exceptions all of our team are returning to school and this is critical to the good behaviour that is safe behaviour; those positive and safe relationships your children have with their teacher and support worker and classes are largely unchanged to support that.

If a child or young person's behaviour is persistently and or seriously risky and unsafe we will work creatively and pragmatically to manage that but it is possible as a last resort some children may have their timetables reduced or return to home/remote learning if their safety or the of others is seriously compromised and we will of course alert you to this and ask for your help and support in encouraging safe behaviours.

Our collective goal will be to get the children and young people safely back in school and back into the rhythm and routine of school life and to respond creatively and supportively to any obstacles to that: whatever it looks like we must as Mr. Jones often says “find a way”.

Thanks

Michael MacCourt