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Dear Saxon Families,

As you will be aware, last week, the Government updated their roadmap for Step 4 which includes the period of time following the 19th July and our return to school in September, and this week, the Prime Minister confirmed these plans. I am now in a position to confirm all of the arrangements parents need to be aware of ahead of Thursday 2nd September.

School Attendance & Safeguarding	<p>From Thursday 2nd September, all children are expected to be in school and any absence that is not deemed exceptional will be unauthorised.</p> <p>The teachers will take the register each morning as usual. If your child is not in school, a member of the office staff will contact you to find out why they are not in school. This is in line with our standard safeguarding measures regarding attendance. Therefore, if your child is not attending for any reason please inform the office via email or phone call before 9:15am.</p>
Travel & Quarantine	<p>Holidays in term time will not be authorised as per our attendance policy and leave will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Parents travelling abroad should bear in mind the impact on their child's education which may result from requirements to quarantine or isolate upon return.</p>
Uniform	<p>The children are expected to wear full uniform including appropriate black school shoes; not black trainers please.</p> <p>Children should bring in full PE kit which includes a pair of trainers. There is no specific requirement for the colour or type of trainer as long as children are comfortable and can move freely.</p> <p>Our uniform policy can be found on our website.</p>
Drop off and collection arrangements	<p><u>Morning drop off</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will continue to be between 8:30 and 8:50am for all children. • At the start of term, children in Years 1-6 can be dropped off at any time between 8:30am and 8:50am either at the main gate on Briar Road or the back gate via Sheep Walk. • Staff will be positioned by the school gates, car park and playground to welcome your child. • Reception children will start school on Thursday 9th September for either the



morning or the afternoon. Information and times have been sent to parents separately. From Monday 13th September, the arrival time for Reception children will be between 8:50-9am. This will be in place for the first few weeks whilst the children are settling in and parents will be notified when this changes.

- Parents of Reception children will be able to walk their child down to the internal gate to the KS1 playground in the first couple of weeks. If there are siblings in other year groups, we ask that they also arrive just before 8:50am to ensure they are in class in time for the register at 8:50am. Please see the exact timings for Reception in your information packs.
- Reception children are welcome to arrive earlier but parents will not be able to walk them to the KS1 gate before 8:50am.

Afternoon collection

Included with this letter is a basic map of the classrooms so parents can identify which classroom their child will be in next year, and to where to collect them from. Please don't worry if you aren't yet familiar with the whole school site or you can't make sense of the map! Staff will direct you to your child's collection points in the first few days.

Reception and KS1 classes will be dismissed at 3:15pm from their classrooms (or close to them):

RB & RL – from the Reception playground

1K – from the classroom door

1MV – from the Year 1 outdoor area

2DV & 2P – from the door to the Year 2 building and the ramp area

KS2 classes will be dismissed at 3:20pm from the following collection points:

3P & 3W – from their classroom doors

4B – classroom door

4L – onto the KS2 playground by the kitchen window

5A – onto the KS2 playground by the kitchen window

5N – classroom door

6D – classroom door

6R – onto the KS2 playground near the Reception classes

Parents will note the new dismissal times which will enable you to collect your youngest child/ren first before your child/ren in KS2. Older siblings will not be sent round to be dismissed with their younger sibling as they are now – all children will be dismissed from their own class at the above times.

Parents are not required to wear a face covering but are welcome to if it makes you feel more comfortable. We ask that only one adult continues to collect the children.

Groupings &
Social
Distancing

It is no longer recommended that we keep children in consistent bubbles. This means that children will continue to play outside together and assemblies can take place in the hall in larger groups e.g. key stages. We will gradually increase the number of children in the hall for an assembly over the first term.

Where it is appropriate and necessary, children can also mix inside.

	<p>If it becomes necessary to reintroduce bubbles due to local outbreaks parents will be informed.</p> <p>It will no longer be necessary for staff to socially distance themselves from other members of staff, and face coverings in communal areas will be optional.</p>
Staffing & classrooms	Attached is a simple map of classrooms and collection points. Please refer to the newsletter dated 26.6.21 for the staffing structure.
Break time & lunch time	<p><u>Breaktime</u> We will continue with a slightly staggered 15-minute morning breaktime, with children in Reception to Year 4 having their break at 10:30 and Years 5&6 at 10:45.</p> <p>Reception's morning play is in their own playground to begin with. Years 1&2 will play together in the KS1 playground. Years 3&4 and Years 5&6 will play in the KS2 playgrounds.</p> <p>Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be provided with a piece of fruit. Children in Years 3-6 can bring a piece of fruit from home.</p> <p><u>Lunchtime</u> Reception – 11:45 – 1pm Year 1 – 12:00 – 1:15pm Year 2 – 12:15 – 1:15pm KS2 – 12:15 – 1:15pm</p> <p>All children will return to eating their lunch in the hall and not the classroom. Free flow play will be reinstated for lunch play when the children are ready for this as it may be overwhelming for children to be in contact with so many children to begin with. When free flow starts, this means children across the whole school play together and have access to all of the playgrounds and the field (in good weather). The children will once again be able to play on the trim trail and with the Play Pod resources once free flow begins. We will let parents know when this happens. When free flow restarts, our youngest children still have the opportunity to play in a quiet area.</p> <p>Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 continue to be eligible for Universal Free School Meals. If your child is having a school lunch (all years), they will be able to make their choice each morning as usual.</p> <p>All children will need to bring a water bottle with them as water fountains will not be available to drink from; please make sure it is clearly named. Staff will support the children in refilling their bottles.</p>
Timetable and learning offer	There are very few aspects of the curriculum that have not been taught despite the school closure in the Spring Term, and where parts of the curriculum have not been taught this is more likely to be within foundation subjects. This is because the English and Maths curriculum is taught throughout the year, with the learning objectives covered each term, which enables the children to deepen their understanding and improve their independent application of their reading, writing and maths skills over the year. Teachers are reviewing the curriculum, mapping out how we can include key

learning that hasn't been taught in next year's provision. There will also be an increased emphasis on carving out short and regular opportunities each day for the children to practise and apply key reading, writing and maths skills in addition to the explicit lessons for these curriculum areas.

Reading will continue to be a priority and additional opportunities will be provided in class for adults to hear children read. Children who are reading the banded reading scheme books will be able to bring their reading packs home. The arrangements for this will be shared in September.

In addition, the library bus will be reopened for all children and each class will be assigned a weekly slot. The children will be able to bring home a library book once a week but must return the book they take home before choosing another one.

Music, French & PE will continue with lessons taking place across KS2 for Music and French, and the whole school for PE. Swimming and Forest School lessons will take place for the specified year groups. A reminder of the schedule for swimming and Forest School:

	Forest School	Swimming
Autumn Term	Year 1	Year 4 & Year 5
Spring Term	Year 3	Year 2 & Year 3
Summer Term	Year 5	Reception & Year 1

All of these lessons will all be led by the relevant specialist teacher in person.

Parents will also be sent curriculum overviews for Autumn I in the first full week of September. These are sent half termly throughout the year.

Parents on site & contact with teachers

The school building will reopen to parents where necessary, however, we ask that parents continue to wait outside the office whilst a member of staff deals with their query. Parents can continue to use the letter box on the main door for any paperwork which doesn't also require a conversation with a member of staff.

Please try and arrive on time, however, should you arrive late, take your child to the office as usual. You will be asked to wait outside and a member of staff will collect your child, sign them in, take their lunch order and see them through to class.

If handing in medication for your child, please pass this to the member of staff at the gate (and complete the online permission form). If the medication needs to be collected at the end of the day, please come to the office and a staff member will bring the medication to the parent outside.

Staff are unable to take messages on the gate, as the attention will need to be on ensuring the safe arrival of the children. Please email the office with all messages.

Parents will once again have the opportunity to speak to their child's class teacher at the end of the school day. We ask that parents do try to keep their distance from staff as much as possible when speaking with them. Please note, this time is appropriate for quick messages and updates; parents who would like to discuss a

	<p>concern in more detail should make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.</p> <p>Parents can continue to email the class teachers via the info.saxon email address to arrange a time for a phone call or face to face meeting.</p> <p>We are planning to welcome parents back into school in a variety of ways. We are mindful it has been difficult for parents who may not have felt as connected to the school as in previous years in the last 16 months. We hope to invite parents to the following in the Autumn Term:</p> <p><u>Curriculum Information Meetings</u> This is an opportunity to meet the class teacher and visit your child’s classroom. The teachers will share information with you about the year ahead including the timetable, home learning, trips etc.</p> <p><u>KS1 Stay, Play & Learn Sessions</u> This is an opportunity for parents to visit their child’s class during the school day and see them in their class environment. Ordinarily, stay and play sessions are only held in Reception & Year 1. However, as this group of parents and children missed out on this in the last two years, Year 2 parents will have this opportunity in the Autumn Term.</p> <p>More information about Stay, Play & Learn sessions will be shared in the Autumn Term at the Curriculum Information Meetings. Dates will be shared in September too when the full dates list comes out.</p> <p>Parents of children in Years 3-6 will also be invited into school in the Autumn Term. These dates and the format of these sessions will be shared in September.</p> <p>All diary dates for the upcoming year will be shared in September, including Parent-Teacher Consultations.</p> <p>We will not be inviting parent volunteers into the classrooms initially, but parents will be welcome to support swimming lessons.</p> <p>Parents must be aware that should we feel the risk is too high to hold face to face meetings or invite parents into school, we will not go ahead with the above plans.</p>
<p>Classroom layout & equipment</p>	<p>The children in Years 2-6 will be provided with their own pencil case which stays in school. Younger children are provided with the resources they need and do not need to bring in their own pencil case.</p> <p>The children can use a Saxon school book bag to carry items they need to and from school. Please ensure the children only bring in a school book bag and not rucksacks. Children are able to have one keyring attached to their bag to help them in identifying their bag. Children should not add more keyrings as they often fall off and get lost causing upset for the children.</p> <p>Children will need to continue to bring in their water bottle. The water fountains can be used to re-fill bottles but we will not be encouraging children to drink directly from the water fountain at this time.</p>

	<p>In Reception, the doors that divide the two classrooms will now remain open to allow for free-flow learning and play. The classroom divide will only be closed at certain times of the day e.g. when teachers are delivering a lesson input to their own class. The Reception outdoor area will be shared between both classes. Both Year 1 classes will return to sharing their designated outdoor area.</p> <p>Classrooms will continue to be well-ventilated.</p>
Home Learning	<p>Home learning will continue in its current format with Reception using the platform Tapestry, and children in Years 1-6 using Google Classroom. Teachers will give more details to parents in the Curriculum Information Meetings in September, particularly regarding using Google Classroom for Year 1 parents. If these meetings are unable to go ahead, information will be emailed out.</p> <p>Where a pupil is unable to attend school because they are complying with clinical and/or public health advice to isolate, children will have access to online learning on their first day of isolation.</p>
Hygiene Practices	<p>Children will be directed to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water at various times throughout the school day.</p> <p>Mr. Harker will be checking the soap dispensers every morning, lunchtime and at the end of the day to ensure there is ample soap for handwashing.</p> <p>We will continue to promote good respiratory hygiene: the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.</p> <p>Boxes of tissues are available in every room.</p>
Cleaning	<p>Classrooms will be cleaned at the end of each day. Disinfectant and disposable cloths will continue to be available should they be required for staff to clean their rooms throughout the day.</p> <p>Mr Harker will carry out a midday touch-point clean every day.</p>
Actions should a child fall unwell during the day	<p>In the event that a child should fall unwell during the school day, we have put the following system in place:</p> <p>The child will be taken to the office as usual, however, if the child is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms they will be "isolated" in a separate room. A member of staff will remain with the child until their parent is able to collect them.</p> <p>Staff will wear appropriate protective equipment (for example, gloves, facemask and apron).</p> <p>If a child comes home and begins to feel unwell, please inform us.</p>
Covid-19 symptoms in your child or a household member	<p>If your child or a member of the household is unwell with a temperature, new and continuous cough, or loss of/changes to sense of smell or taste, please do not send your child to school.</p> <p>Please follow the NHS guidance on staying at home (self-isolating) and NHS</p>

	<p>information on testing for coronavirus. Parents need to inform the school immediately if their child or the close contact of a child tests positive.</p> <p>Please be mindful of sharing updates about your child or family members via Whatsapp groups as this can lead to confusion and worry amongst children and parents. Please be assured that school will remain in contact with any family with symptoms and undergoing tests.</p> <p>If a child or staff member tests positive for Covid-19 we will follow guidance from Public Health England.</p>
Contact Tracing	<p>Currently, during term time and school holidays, school has been responsible for identifying close contacts when there has been a positive case of Covid-19 in a bubble. This will no longer be a requirement and the guidance is as follows (please note this guidance is also written for secondary schools):</p> <p><i>'Settings will only need to do contact tracing up to Step 4 (19th July). From Step 4, close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.</i></p> <p><i>As with positive cases in any other settings, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. You (the school) may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.</i></p> <p><i>From 16th August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.</i></p> <p><i>Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.</i></p> <p><i>18-year-olds will be treated in the same way as children until 4 months after their 18th birthday, to allow them the opportunity to get fully vaccinated. At which point, they will be subject to the same rules as adults and so if they choose not to get vaccinated, they will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.</i></p> <p><i>Settings will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. If there is an outbreak in a setting or if central government offers the area an enhanced response package, a director of public health might advise a setting to temporarily reintroduce some control measures.'</i></p> <p>Parents should still let the school know if their child is unwell with Covid-19 symptoms, that they have booked a PCR test and the result of that test.</p>
Clinically Vulnerable Children	All CEV children should attend their education setting unless they are one of the very small number of children and young people under paediatric or other specialist care who have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend.

Asymptomatic testing of staff	Twice weekly staff testing will be paused over the summer holidays. Testing will resume in September and this will be reviewed by the Government at the end of September.
Breakfast Club & Afterschool Clubs	Breakfast Club and After School Club will re-open on Thursday 2 nd September. Parents who have booked a place have been sent information, however, we no longer need to group the children separately. The children will be collected from their classrooms by the ASC staff and taken to the ASC room. Extra-curricular activity clubs will be resuming in September and information will be sent out in September.

I hope the information in this letter answers any questions parents may have about what the new academic year will look like for us all. It is expected that, after so long with restrictions in place, that there may be some children, parents and staff who feel anxious about the reduced restrictions and support can be offered to anyone requiring it.

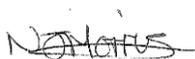
We are hopeful that school can return to something like the years before Covid-19, but we will scale back the above plans should we need to and keep families informed; particularly as we do not know what the impact of reduced restrictions over the summer will be. The systems and procedures we have in place allow for us to 'step up' infection control and prevention measures should we be required to. We have learnt so much in the last year and will be able to respond quickly should guidelines or infection numbers dictate that further measures are needed.

Any parent or child who requires additional support starting or returning to school are invited to contact us via the info.saxon email address and a member of the team will make contact with you.

We are really looking forward to welcoming all the children and parents back to school in September to what we hope is an uninterrupted school year.

In the meantime, I wish all of our families a wonderful, relaxing and safe summer holiday.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Morris
Headteacher