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Coronavirus (COVID-19): letter to parents on full opening from 8 March

RE: Full opening arrangements from 8 March

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will likely be aware, the Prime Minister has announced that all school-age pupils will return to full-time on-site provision from 8 March. We would like to take this opportunity to outline our arrangements for full opening prior to this date.

Attendance

From 8th March, attendance will be mandatory for all school age pupils. Pupils not attending for reasons such as public health advice, e.g. they are shielding or have coronavirus, will continue to receive remote education, where appropriate. Parents should contact the school office, should this apply to your child.

We will, of course, work with the families of any pupils who may be struggling academically, emotionally, or physically to ensure they enjoy as smooth a transition as possible back into school life. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's form teacher in the first instance to discuss how we may be able to offer support.

Protective measures

The return of all our pupils is incredibly welcome, but their safety and wellbeing remain our highest priority. The process will therefore be supported by a range of actions to reduce the spread of the virus and minimise the need for year group isolations. We are regularly updating our risk assessment to reflect any changes in circumstances pertaining to the full return of pupils and will communicate any future changes to you as and when we make them. Our risk assessment is available to access on the school website.

We will continue our practices of enhanced cleaning across the school site, ventilating occupied spaces wherever possible and keeping pupils together in year group bubbles.

In order to assist us in minimising risk of infection, please ensure your child is only bringing essential items to the school site each day, including:

- Hats and coats
- Books
- Stationery
- School bags



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Our Infection Control Policy and Social Distancing Policy will continue to be followed at all times. These policies are also available on the school's website.

Drop off and Collection:

In accordance with Government guidance, we will continue to operate staggered start and finish times to minimise any unnecessary contact between parents and pupil groups. We will implement the following structure each day:

Group	Drop Off time	Collection time	Location
<u>Reception</u>	8.55am	3:00pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 1</u>	8:55am	3:00pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 2</u>	8.50am	3:10pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 3</u>	8.45am	3.30pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 4</u>	8.40am	3.30pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 5</u>	8.35am	3.40pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 6</u>	8.30am	3.45pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road

The usual arrangements with regards to siblings will apply:

- Drop off with eldest sibling
- Collection: **Please inform the school office if you need to collect siblings together and require the After-school club service** (e.g. for an infant and junior child collection) so that we can manage their collection together.

Where possible, please ensure pupils avoid public transport as a means of travelling to and from the school site. We kindly ask that parents and carers wear a face covering during drop off and collection arrangements. We ask that parents do not enter the school site or gather in groups on or outside of the school premises. Please arrange an appointment if you need to visit the school site.

Uniform & PE Kit

We expect pupils to attend school in their full uniform on their return. We will be upholding our School Uniform Policy as normal, however we would ask that children from Reception to Year 6



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come to school in their full winter PE kit, on the designated PE day, to reduce the requirement for changing clothes in school. Your child's designated PE day(s) will remain the same as in the Autumn term.

Lunches and snacks:

Lunches will be provided in school as normal and children from Year 1 to Y6 will require a healthy snack for morning break. All children will need their named water bottles in school.

Wraparound Service and Extra Curricular Clubs

We will continue to provide our Before school and After School clubs for childcare purposes.

Before School club: From 8am to 8.30am

After School Club: From 3pm to 5.30pm

Timings of wraparound services will be kept under review and may be subject to change.

Extra-Curricular clubs will restart when it is safe and practicable to do so. We will keep parents informed of any updates in due course.

Other information:

All other information regarding arrangements, routines and procedures for full opening of school from 8th March is contained in the 'Parent Handbook for Full Opening', which is attached to this email.

Remote Learning on Friday 5th March:

In order for preparations to be made for all children to return to school on Monday 8th March, our online remote learning sessions will be suspended on Friday 5th March. Although no live Zoom sessions will take place (including Achievement Assemblies) for those children learning from home, tasks for children to complete independently will be provided. Critical worker children and vulnerable children should still attend school.

Thank you for your continued support during this tough time. We appreciate all your efforts and assistance through the recent partial closure period and we now look forward to welcoming back all of our Avalon family.

If you have any queries, or would like to speak to someone, please get in touch with the school office on 0151 625 6993 or via email: schooloffice@avalon-school.co.uk

Yours sincerely

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