



Dear Parents/Carers

Unfortunately, due to the current situation regarding the Coronavirus and the partial closure of schools, we are unable to organise our usual transition arrangements. Therefore, I have written this letter to provide some key information about our planned starting school arrangements for September. **Please note this is a provisional plan due to the ongoing uncertainty. We are currently unaware of how schools will be reopening in September.** If schools do not reopen for all year groups in September, we will contact you again with an updated plan. We know this is frustrating for parents however, we are trying our best to prepare for your child to begin their school journey with us.

Tapestry

At Ellwood Community Primary School, we use Tapestry to share your child's learning journey with you. Throughout your child's time in Reception, you will be able to have an insight into their learning and development by accessing a secure account to view your child's learning journey. We have decided to set Tapestry up earlier during this uncertain time, to share photos and videos with you and your child. This will help your child to familiarise themselves with the school environment and with the adults who they will be working with, when they start school.

In order to set Tapestry up for you we need to use your email address. If you have not yet provided your preferred email address, please ensure you send it to Miss Peart via email: c.peart@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk as soon as possible.

Please check your inbox for an email from Tapestry inviting you to set up your account with Ellwood Community Primary School. Please note if you already have a Tapestry account with a nursery/pre-school setting you will still need to follow the link to activate your account with us. If you have any problems setting up your account, please contact us.

Provisional September starting arrangements

Home visits – 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th September

At Ellwood Community Primary School, we offer a home visit before your child starts school. Home visits are planned to take place on the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th of September. Unfortunately, at this stage we are unable to confirm whether home visits will definitely be taking place. If we are not able to carry out home visits you will be invited into school for a meeting on one of the dates listed above.

Stay and Play – Friday 11th September 9.30-12.00

We are planning to offer parents/carers and children the opportunity to come into Oak class together and spend time with us to become familiar with our learning environment. We will also be holding a short informal phonics workshop during this time to inform you about how we teach your child to read and write, enabling you to support your child at home. This is also a great opportunity to meet other parents and children.

Settling weeks 14th – 25th September

We have planned for the first two weeks of school to be a settling period before your child starts school full time. We appreciate timings can be difficult for parents to accommodate however, we value this time to 'get to know' the children in smaller groups and complete valuable assessments which will inform planning for the rest of the Autumn term.

For the first two weeks the children will be split into two groups. We have started to gather information from your child's nursery/pre-school setting which will be used to support grouping however, it would be helpful if you could notify Miss Peart via email about any special friendships so we can try and support the children's transition into school by grouping friends together. Please let me know about any special friendships via email by Monday 29th June. Your child's group (A or B) will be sent to you via email at some stage next week. Once you have been given a group for your child, we will not be able to accommodate any changes.

	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
Monday 14 th September	9.00-12.00 [A]	1.00-3.00 [B]
Tuesday 15 th September	9.00-12.00 [A]	1.00-3.00 [B]
Wednesday 16 th September	9.00-12.00 [A]	1.00-3.00 [B]
Thursday 17 th September	9.00-12.00 [A]	1.00-3.00 [B]
Friday 18 th September	9.00-1.15 (including lunch) [A & B]	

	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
Monday 21 st September	9.00-12.00 [B]	1.00-3.00 [A]
Tuesday 22 nd September	9.00-12.00 [B]	1.00-3.00 [A]
Wednesday 23 rd September	9.00-12.00 [B]	1.00-3.00 [A]
Thursday 24 th September	9.00-12.00 [B]	1.00-3.00 [A]
Friday 25 th September	9.00-1.15 (including lunch) [A & B]	

ALL children to start full time (8.55am-3.15pm) from Monday 28th September.

On the transition dates detailed above please provide a lunchbox for your child if their visit includes lunch. From Monday 28th September your child is entitled to a free school meal if you wish.

Kind regards

Miss Peart