**Further Information Letter – September 2021 Reception Intake** 9th June 2021

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing today with information about our plans to welcome your children to Etwall Primary School. We have delayed sending this information as we have followed the government and PHE information about the Delta variant of Covid which have affected our plans somewhat.

Many of you already have children at Etwall Primary and so will be familiar with the school but for some of you, this will be the beginning of your journey with us. We hope that, whichever, the case, you will find Class Dojo and our school website informative and helpful. If you haven’t already signed up for Class Dojo, please consider doing so. We find this such a helpful way to get information over to parents and it offers you the opportunity to send individual private messages to school staff so your queries and questions can be answered.

For us, the most important aspect is getting to know you and your children as individuals. It is for this reason, that we have prioritised ‘garden visits’ where a member of the EYFS team will visit you and your child in your own garden, where possible. We believe that this personalised approach is more valuable than any number of meetings that we could host at school and so it is our number one priority for transition.

In addition to this, many children will not have ever visited the school before and so we are also offering a small group stay and play session in school in July. Further details as to the dates and times will be provided as, to remain as safe as we can, we will limit the number of children for each session.

For those parents that have not yet seen the school itself, you are also welcome to book in a school tour so that you and your child can see more of their new school and meet the school leadership team if you feel that you would benefit from this. To support our school risk assessment for COVID, we are offering these tours after school when there are very few children present and we ask you to make an appointment with the school office to arrange these.

In September, we will be following a similar model to last year which worked extremely well in helping all children to settle into school. Children will attend for two half day stay and play sessions before attending school full time from Thursday 9th September. This works so well in giving each child the individual attention they need to be comfortable and confident with the school staff and with their new classroom before all children arrive and the fun really begins! Again, further information will be provided on your individual letter as dates and times are dependent on the small group that your child has been placed in for these sessions.

You will also be receiving letters from Mrs Toynbee and the team which will give you the information particular to your child for the stay and play sessions in school.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information – our contact details are at the top of this letter. We look forward to meeting you all shortly!

With kind regards,

Mrs Bentley