



## Proposed return to school – September 2020



Further to previous communication sent out at the end of last term, and the Government announcement, I can now share with you more details about how we envisage the school day will look/work when all children return on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

### Extract from Government Guidance

“Returning to school is vital for children’s education and for their wellbeing. Time out of school is detrimental for children’s cognitive and academic development, particularly for disadvantaged children. This impact can affect both current levels of learning and children’s future ability to learn, and therefore we need to ensure all pupils can return to school sooner rather than later.

The risk to children themselves of becoming severely ill from coronavirus (COVID-19) is very low and there are negative health impacts of being out of school. We know that school is a vital point of contact for public health and safeguarding services that are critical to the wellbeing of children and families.”

In addition to the guidance set out in this document, please do note that whilst we will do what we can to mitigate the risk, following the system of controls set out by the Government in order to minimise risks, we cannot guarantee that social distancing will take place all of the time whilst the children are in school and that, given the nature of this virus, we cannot guarantee a COVID-19 free environment.

This is in line with the risk assessment prepared alongside the Trust.

In order to follow guidance we will:

1. Ensure children remain in their normal class. Their ‘bubble’ groups will be as follows:
  - a. Years R, 1 and 2
  - b. Years 3 and 4
  - c. Years 5 and 6.
2. Stagger break and lunch times, as well as school arrival and departure times, based around the above ‘bubbles’.

3. Clean more frequently, ensure hands are cleaned more thoroughly than usual and ensure good respiratory hygiene (“Catch it, Bin it, Kill it”).
4. Ask all parents to maintain social distancing and to avoid going in to the school building without a confirmed prior appointment.

Changes to the school day

1. Drop off

Should you have more than one child attending school, please drop off at the earliest time applicable to your situation.

- The start of the day is to be staggered according to the following timetable:

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Drop-off time</u>
Years R	Separate information has been sent out regarding this.
Years 1 and 2	8.30am
Years 3 and 4	8.40am
Years 5 and 6	8.50am

- We will open up both entrances to the school (the main entrance and the rear entrance off Swiller’s Lane). Members of staff will be on hand to guide you. In relation to the rear entrance, children will need to be dropped off at the bottom of the path leading up to school. This will be supervised by members of staff.
- Children will be directed to go straight to their classroom and enter through the fire doors at the rear of each classroom.
- Should a child have difficulty leaving you and entering school, we will support and encourage the child in whatever way we can. However, we will not be able to physically intervene in any way and no adults will be allowed to bring their child(ren) on to the school site.

2. Pick up

- The end of the school day is to be staggered according to the following timetable:

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Pick up time</u>
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Year R	Separate information has been sent out regarding this.
Years 1 and 2	3.00pm
Years 3 and 4	3.10pm
Years 5 and 6	3.20pm

Should you have more than one child attending school, please pick up at the earliest time applicable to your situation.

- **Pick up will be through the main entrance only.**
  - At pick-up only, parents will enter the school via the front gate, and leave through the staff car park. Unless in an emergency, no vehicles will enter or exit the school car park at this time.
  - Parents will wait in a specific, marked area on the playground. A member of staff will be there to guide you as to where you should wait. We hope that, in creating a such a space, we reduce the changes of social distancing not being possible were you to wait outside the school grounds.
  - Each Year group will be brought to the playground at the relevant time. Once directed by this member of staff, your child will be released to you. You should then immediately proceed to exit the school site via the staff car park, observing social distancing measures at all times.
3. At school provision
- The children will be taught in their normal classes and will spend the school day together. They will not socialise or otherwise mix with any class that is not in their bubble. Even with the other class(es) in their bubble, we will endeavour to ensure social distancing takes place wherever possible.
  - Children will be helped to socialise appropriately, resettle into new routines and be supported with any anxieties they may have. We will teach an ambitious and broad curriculum in all subjects from the start of the autumn term, but make use of existing flexibilities to create time to cover any of the most important missed content.

- Following Government guidance, the aim will be to return to the school's normal curriculum in all subjects by summer term 2021, but substantial modification to the curriculum may be needed at the start of the year in order to address significant gaps in pupils' knowledge.

#### 4. Online provision

- In the case of a local lockdown, or where there is a specific individual need, Google Classrooms and/or Clasdojo will be used to deliver the school curriculum.
- Homework will be set online.

#### 5. Other considerations

- First aid – staff wearing PPE etc.

*“Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended... Schools and other education or childcare settings should therefore not require staff, children and learners to wear face coverings. Changing habits, cleaning and hygiene are effective measures in controlling the spread of the virus. Face coverings (or any form of medical mask where instructed to be used for specific clinical reasons) should not be worn in any circumstance by those who may not be able to handle them as directed (for example, young children, or those with special educational needs or disabilities) as it may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission.”*

**Department for Education publication**

#### **Coronavirus (COVID-19): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings**

We will be following the above Government advice as to the use of protective face masks so will not be providing them. However, staff may wear a visor should they wish too.

We will follow our usual procedures when administering first aid, though more protective equipment will be worn by staff should the need arise.

- Cleaning

We will have increased cleaning throughout the school site. However, washing hands remains the most important thing that everyone can do to reduce the risk of spreading infection.

- Water bottles

Children can bring in their own water bottles. Ideally, the children should bring enough water for themselves for the whole day. Should they require their bottles to be re-filled, a member of staff will do this.

- Lunches

For the first half term, cold lunches will be provided (a menu will be sent out when received). Alternatively, children will be able to bring in their own packed lunch.

Lunch times will be staggered, and the children will remain in their 'bubbles' throughout this time.

- Resources (pencil case etc.)

The children will be provided with the resources they need at school. However, the children can bring in a small amount of *essential* resources should they wish. They are allowed to bring in a small bag. On the first day of return, children need to bring in their PE kit which will then remain at school.

- Toilets

Specific toilets will be allocated for use by the children in each bubble. Only one child at a time will be permitted to use the toilet.

#### 6. Should a child/member of staff display symptoms of COVID-19

- If your child is unwell, for any reason, please do not send them in to school.
- All staff and pupils who are attending school will have access to a test if they display symptoms.
- Should any pupil or member of staff display symptoms of COVID-19, they will be sent home and advised to follow the '*COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection*' guidance. This includes self-isolating for 10 days, with household members self-isolating for 14 days.
- Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test. Tests can be booked online through the NHS [testing and tracing for coronavirus website](#), or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet. Essential workers, which includes anyone involved in education or childcare, have priority access to testing.
- Evidence of a negative test must be provided in order for a pupil or member of staff, who has previously displayed symptoms of COVID-19, to return to school.
- If we have a confirmed case of COVID-19 from within the school community of those who have returned to school, we will follow guidance from Public Health England in relation to

isolation of pupils and staff who have had contact with that individual, additional cleaning and possible closure.

- If any member of your household show symptoms of COVID-19, please contact 111 and follow advice and guidance offered.

7. Useful links to Government websites

[Information for parents and carers](#)

[Stay at home guidance](#)

[Full return to school](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions - what you can and can't do](#)

[Staying alert and social distancing](#)

[Getting tested](#)