



The following questions may help parents and carers understand the special arrangements put in place to ensure that pupils may return to school safely at the start of the new term.

COVID-19: REOPENING TO ALL PUPILS IN SEPTEMBER 2020

How will the school ensure it is safe for all pupils to return in September?

Schools are being asked to decide how to minimise the risk from COVID-19 whilst providing a full educational experience, using their existing resources. Schools can manage risk effectively, not by social distancing, but by minimising the number of contacts a pupil has during the day **and** by increased hygiene and cleaning practices. We will follow all the government guidance for the prevention of the spread of COVID-19 in our school community.

Why do all children have to return to school in September? What if I don't feel it is safe?

*The scientific evidence shows that coronavirus presents a much lower risk to children than adults of becoming severely ill, and there is no evidence that children transmit the disease any more than adults. Of course, there will still be risks while COVID-19 remains in the community, and that is why schools and colleges will be asked to put in place a range of protective measures. **Guidance for full opening: school - 2nd July 2020 DfE***

How will staff be prepared/trained for this?

Staff have been receiving regular updates and briefings on the latest government guidance relating to the further opening of schools. To further ensure the staff are aware of the revised processes, the 1st of September will include staff briefing and training before the school opens to pupils on the 2nd.

Is attendance at school compulsory? If I don't send my child to school, will I be penalised?

From September, the usual attendance rules return. Current government guidance is that all children should return to school and failure to do so may result in penalties. If this position changes the school will inform parents. We are committed to working with parents and carers to help them understand the full range of protective measures in place and increase their confidence to send children back to school. Parents with concerns, should contact the school as soon as possible so we can support you.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION

What are the arrival and collection arrangements?

The government is recommending that all schools introduce staggered arrival/collection times to reduce the number of adults and children on site at any one time, and to facilitate social distancing and one way systems. We have also increased the routes into school, including making the school driveway a car-free zone before and after school. This will allow us to bring children down the school drive and through the upper playground.

During arrival and collection we encourage social distancing and parents can be supportive of this by dropping and leaving their child promptly in order to avoid any crowding.

Where are the entry/exit points and how will parents drop off and collect following social distancing?

- YR 9.00am 3.00pm Main gate/Courtyard
- Y1 8.40am 3.10pm Main gate/main doors

• Y2	8.50am	3.20pm	Main gate/main doors
• Y3	8.40am	3.10pm	School drive /upper playground
• Y4	8.50am	3.20pm	School drive /upper playground
• Y5	8.30am	3.00pm	Main gate/main doors
• Y6	8.30am	3.00pm	School drive /upper playground

Parents must support the health and safety of the whole school community by adhering to the following whenever possible:

- Only one adult per family to drop-off and collect each day.
- Parents to leave promptly after drop-off/collection to prevent crowding.
- Parents not to congregate in groups before and after school, maintaining social distancing.
- Parents not coming into the school but communicating by email or phone.

What happens if my child arrives late for school?

Any child arriving late will need to go to Reception to be signed in. Parents are encouraged to stick to the timetable as closely as possible and should understand that if they are late they may need to wait longer than usual to be seen.

How will you help the children to adjust to life back at school?

The children's health and wellbeing is paramount and our first priority will be to help them settle into their new classes and ensure that they feel safe and ready to learn. It will be necessary for the children to spend more time in their classrooms due to the limitations on available outdoor spaces, but this time will be used for increased well-being and PSHE activities.

How will teachers know where children are in their learning when they return to school?

In the first few weeks, teachers will carry out a range of assessments to determine which areas of the curriculum they will need to revisit to ensure any learning gaps are closed. Individual children will receive one to one and small group interventions as needed to help them catch up. 'Old' teachers will liaise with new teachers to make sure that they are well-informed about children's individual needs.

How should parents and carers contact the school with any issues or concerns?

In order to minimise risk of transmission, the home-school books will not be used for communication. Instead, parents should phone or email the school with any concerns they have. There will be no opportunity for contact at drop off/collection as the school needs to avoid a build-up of people in a small area, in line with government guidance. School will endeavour to respond if necessary (via email) as soon as possible, however we appreciate your patience and understanding that this may not be immediately during this challenging period.

Are children expected to wear school uniform?

Yes, we expect children to wear school uniform and school shoes, although you may need to allow more time than previously to order online from our uniform suppliers. The government guidance states that clothes do not need to be cleaned any more than usual or any special washing procedures.

Will children need PE kits?

Yes, wherever possible, schools should follow a normal curriculum, including PE. However, there may be restrictions on indoor lessons due to the risk of contamination of equipment and the hall space. This may mean that PE activities take place outside or in the classroom. We will inform parents when children need to bring in PE kits and what is required for each year group.

What can the children bring to school with them?

Ideally, children should only bring essential items in to school: a pencil case with key stationery, lunchbox, water bottle and PE kit. Book bags and small bags **can** be used.

What will be the provision at lunchtime, and will school dinners be available?

Children will eat lunch in their classrooms. Parents can purchase a school packed lunch or send in a lunch from home. No hot lunch options will be available at this time although we hope to review this in due course. Children in Year R Year1 and Year 2, and those eligible for Free School Meals, will be provided with a school packed lunch.

Will my child have a reading book?

All children will be provided with a school reading book which can be changed in class as required. Staff will ensure that books are sanitized between uses. Unfortunately, the school library will not be open to children and parents until further notice.

Will children be set homework?

Yes, when the school reopens to all pupils, the usual expectations for homework will resume. We will provide more information at the start of the new term about homework timetables for each year group.

How will the school manage children who would normally need pastoral or behaviour support?

We have shared our adapted behaviour plan which outlines the necessary expectations on the school website. Parents need to ensure children are familiar with this and any difficulties with behaviour will be shared with parents. Children will be supported by school staff with regular reminders of expected behaviour. Reasonable adjustments will be made whenever possible and wherever necessary, however if rules are broken:

- children will initially, be reminded
- sanctions will be given as appropriate
- and/or when deemed necessary parents will be informed

Will MASK reopen? MASK will operate as usual with before and after school care.

HEALTH AND SAFETY**What hygiene measures will the school put in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19?**

- The school will minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- Children and staff will be required to wash hands regularly: on entry to the classroom, before and after lunch, at regular intervals throughout the day. Handwashing will be supervised and monitored by staff.
- Children will be taught good hygiene procedures in their new classes, including using toilets, handwashing, cleaning tables and equipment and not sharing table based resources.
- The school will implement enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach.

Will my child be socially distanced from other children and adults?

No, the school recognises that it is extremely unlikely that children, especially younger children, will be able to maintain social distancing at all times. Government guidance recognises this and the safe opening of the school for the children is not dependent on social distancing being maintained. Children will be allowed to mix freely across their class 'bubbles'.

Older children, however, will be encouraged not to touch one another and **all children** will be encouraged not to touch staff. Staff will attempt to keep their distance from children but this will be difficult, particularly with younger children. The guidance asks staff to avoid face to face contact where possible and to minimise time spent within 1 metre of a child.

How will the class room will be set up safely?

Where reasonable and practicable, the school will make small adaptations to the classroom to support distancing where possible, such as seating pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on. They will have their own essential equipment which they will not share. Other equipment may be shared when necessary (maths, art, science) but will be sanitized regularly. Older children will be trained to wipe down shared resources after use. Wherever and whenever possible, classrooms will be well ventilated.

How will pupils move around the school safely?

Careful management of the timetable for each will help to minimise the chance of children from different classes being in the same area of school. A one-way system will also operate, minimising the opportunities for children to have direct contact with others.

What happens if someone develops symptoms of COVID-19? (new persistent cough, high temperature, loss or change to sense of taste or smell).

Parents and carers must support school by:

- *ensuring anyone who has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or has someone in their household who does, does not attend school – this means if your child, or someone in your household, has symptoms you should not send them to school.*
- *engaging with the NHS Test and Trace process so that cases can be identified and action taken – this means if your child develops symptoms, you should arrange for them to get a test and you should inform the school of the results of that test - **What parents and carers need to know about school in the autumn term, 10 July 2020 DfE***

If a child or staff member shows symptoms, the class remain open for other pupils until the results of the tests are known (this is the latest government guidance).

If the test result is **negative**, the class continues as normal and the person with symptoms can return when feeling well enough.

If the test results are **positive**, the whole class will close for 14 days to isolate, whilst the rest of the school remains open.

How will the children learn if classes have to isolate at home?

Google classroom has been an effective tool for home learning since April. This will be used for home-learning for any classes that need to isolate with daily learning tasks and teacher feedback.

What is the school response to a child wishing to wear a mask?

The government guidance advises that wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is **not recommended**. Face coverings may be beneficial for short periods indoors where there is a risk of close social contact with people you do not usually meet and where social distancing and other measures cannot be maintained, for example on public transport or in some shops. This does not apply to schools or other education settings. 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.

Can I see a copy of the Risk Assessment that has been carried out by the school?

A current risk assessment is available on the school website.

The following links are to relevant government guidance informing this document:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>
- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works#people-who-develop-symptoms-of-coronavirus>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings-including-the-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safe-working-in-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/>