

School Reopening Guidance

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, the Government has issued guidance regarding the reopening of schools in September. We are preparing to open to all year groups and in accordance with Government Guidance, from September, school attendance will be compulsory for all children.

We know that many of you will still be concerned about what safety measures will be in place and how we will reduce the possibility of transmission and about what school will look like for your children in the new academic year. **The information below outlines both the safety measures we will have in place and information about how school will be organised.**

In collaboration with Hertfordshire County Council and in line with DFE guidance, the school has undertaken a robust and detailed risk assessment to ensure the safety and well-being of children and staff and to reduce risk, wherever possible.

As I am sure you appreciate, implementing social distancing measures, particularly with young children, presents with many challenges. The school will be following government guidelines and will be establishing the following measures, please note this is not an exhaustive list:

Safety and Hygiene

- Handwashing routines will remain in place. Children will be asked to wash their hands on arrival to school, before break, after break, before lunch, after lunch, during the afternoon and before they go home.
- To reduce transmission and to protect staff, no parents or carers will be allowed entry into the building. There may be exceptional circumstances where this is required and permission must be sought from Mrs Wicks, Mrs Waller or Mr Comer beforehand.
- Safety measure, including the partition of corridors and social distancing markers will be in place around the school to remind children of the importance of social distancing.
- School will follow the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' approach- posters regarding this are on display around school and staff will provide daily reminders to children.
- Classroom desks and contact points will be cleaned every 90 minutes throughout the day with an Anti-viral cleaning product

In the classroom

- As per Government advice, class sizes will return to 30. However classroom setup will be adjusted, with **children sitting in rows facing the front of the class**, rather than groups. Children will have individual 'zip wallets' of stationary on their desk and minimise sharing of resources.
- Teachers will limit the amount of close contact with children where possible.
- There will be no soft furnishings in classrooms or equipment used that is difficult to clean.
- Classrooms will be stocked with enough books in their reading areas to ensure a wide choice of reading material is available.

The School Day

- We will make some slight adjustments to the school day to ensure that contact between each new “bubble” is minimised. These will include:
- Extending “soft start” in the morning so that children can arrive at school between **8:30am – 8:50am**. Class teachers will be in their classrooms, waiting to greet pupils as they arrive.
- Pick up times will remain the same. **School will finish at 3:15pm for all pupils**; however, there will be specified locations for pick-up- which we will make you aware of.
- Break times will be staggered to minimise the number of children in corridors and limit the number of children on the playgrounds at any given time.
- There will be no whole school assemblies – teachers will carry out “in-class” assemblies each morning.
- Lunch times will be staggered to minimize traffic around the school and limit ‘bubble mixing’.
- Each year group will use its own play and PE equipment which will be stored separately and frequently cleaned.

Learning and “Catch-up”

We are well aware that, despite the extensive home-learning provided during school closure, there will be some gaps in learning for many children. In September we will:

- Carry out detailed assessments in the first few weeks of the autumn term to identify any “learning gaps” from the previous year’s curriculum or any individual areas of focus.
- Arrange targeted interventions, focusing on English and Maths to ensure any gaps in learning are addressed.

Events, Trips and Extra-curricular activities

- There will be no trips or visits arranged for the autumn term. We will review this on an ongoing basis.
- There will be no class assemblies or parents’ afternoons until further notice.
- There will be no after-school clubs in the autumn term or any sporting events organised. This is will be reviewed when we receive further Government guidance.

Suspected and Confirmed Cases:

- We will now **only inform you if someone tests positive** for Covid-19, **not of suspected cases**.
- The Government will produce further advice regarding this in the autumn term. Where there has been a confirmed case in school, we will work closely with a dedicated health protection team, follow their advice and liaise with you accordingly.