

# SCHOOL RE-OPENING

## MARCH 2021

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(UPDATED 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021)

#### The symptoms of Coronavirus

**New continuous cough**

**Fever**

**Loss or a change in your normal sense of smell or taste**

1. [What measures have been put in place to ensure all children and staff are safe when school reopens in March?](#)

Our normal safeguarding procedures are in place. There are signs around the school to remind staff and children what they need to do to protect themselves whilst in school. Children will watch video guidance on how to stay safe within school; hand-sanitisers are placed around the school at key entrances; children will be encouraged to wash their hands at key points during the day; cleaning will take place throughout the day. Please see the Risk Assessment on our website for more guidance.

2. [I don't feel comfortable sending my child back to school full-time, will I get fined if my child doesn't attend school?](#)

The Government has stated that all children are required, by law, to return to school from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and therefore attendance will be monitored and action taken where necessary for any unauthorised absence.

3. [I don't feel comfortable sending my child back to school full-time and I will provide home-schooling, can the school arrange for regular work to be sent home; will my child lose their place?](#)

If you do not feel comfortable sending your child to school due to medical reasons, please phone the school to request an individual risk assessment for your child. The staff will do their best to ensure that it is safe for your child to return, and this will be completed with your support. Please provide medical evidence from a medical professional if it is unsafe for your child to return to school. The school will then put together a package of home learning for your child.

4. [If a member of our household is shielding, can my child still attend school?](#)

Yes, your child can still attend school.

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5. [If my child is unable to attend school due to a COVID related reason, will the school arrange for regular work to be sent home?](#)

If your child is unwell, we would not expect them to complete work as we would want them to make a full recovery. If your child needs to isolate as a member of the family is displaying symptoms, but they are well, please contact the school and leave a message for the class teacher, they will provide work for your child to complete remotely.

6. [My child is eligible to Free School Meals \(FSM\). If my child is unable to attend school due to a COVID related reason, will they still receive FSM vouchers?](#)

The FSM voucher scheme will end when school returns, so we will not be able to provide vouchers. If your child is eligible for FSM and has to isolate because they have tested positive, or a member of their household has tested positive, a lunch grab bag can be collected by a non-isolating member of the household from outside the kitchen on Haynes Street between 11:30am and 12:30pm, each day, for the period of their isolation.

7. [What happens if a child or a member of staff displays symptoms of COVID whilst at school?](#)

If a child displays symptoms their adult will be contacted and asked to collect their child from school immediately. Adults are asked to wait outside and a member of staff will bring their child to them. Adults should then arrange to get their child tested and a leaflet will be handed out explaining the procedure. If the test is negative the child may return back to school; if it is a positive test the child must isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms, along with all members of the household. We will also contact parents of children who have been identified as a contact. Contacts will be asked to isolate for 10 days after their last day of contact with the positive case.

The same procedure will apply to a member of staff. They will be asked to leave school immediately and must arrange to get tested.

8. [How regularly is the school cleaned?](#)

The school will be cleaned every evening and each lunchtime. Desks and surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day.

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9. How and where will break-times and lunch-times take place to adhere to the Government guidelines on social distancing and children remaining in classes/bubbles?

Children will still have the same amount of break-times within the school day. However, children will take breaks with a 'year group bubble'. Classes have been assigned an area of the yard to play in during break-times. During lunchtime, the pupils will need to take half of their break-time in the classroom (like a wet break-time) and half of their break-time outside. In terms of dining, hot dinners will be taken in the hall, packed lunches will be taken in the classrooms. This is to support social distancing and to ensure that each class can access a separate area of the yard.

10. Will my child have to wear school uniform?

Yes, all children will be required to wear school uniform.

11. What can my child bring with them to school?

Please ensure children do not bring any toys to school. They can bring a water bottle, small bag, P.E. bag, coat and packed lunch (unless they access school dinners). In rainy weather pupils may bring wellington boots into school, in a labelled bag.

12. How will parents remain a two metre distance apart when dropping off/collecting children from school?

We ask parents to be responsible and keep a two metre distance from one another. We have painted boxes outside each entrance to maintain social distancing when dropping pupils off at the classroom doors. The entrance doors will be open to encourage a free flow of pupils into school from 8:45 – 9:00am, and we will start releasing pupils from 3:00 – 3:15pm to avoid parents congregating on the yard.

13. My child has asthma. Can they return to school in March and how safe will it be for children who have respiratory conditions?

Yes they can, unless they have a medical note from a medical professional to say that they must remain at home. Please contact the school if you would like us to create an individual risk assessment for your child.

14. What arrangements will be put in place for seating in the classroom to ensure social distancing?

Desks in classrooms in Years 3 to 6 will be put in rows. All children will be educated about keeping a safe distance.

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#### 15. How will teachers manage the washing area and control the children?

Handwashing has been timetabled throughout the day. There are also hand sanitising stations throughout the school that children will use at certain points throughout the day. If your child has sensitive skin they can bring their own products in, but they must take responsibility for keeping these products safe and must not share with other pupils.

#### 16. What size classes/bubbles will the children be in?

Class bubbles include 30 pupils and year group bubbles include 90 pupils.

#### 17. Will there be a bigger window of time for children to be dropped off and collected to and from school?

Yes, pupils can be dropped off from 8:45 - 9:00am and collected from 3:00 – 3:15pm.

#### 18. Will the children be back to school full-time; is there an option for my child to return part-time?

Children must return full-time unless they have previously accessed the school part-time due to their additional needs as identified by the SENDCO.

#### 19. Will children need to wear face masks/coverings?

No, primary aged children are not required to wear facemasks in school. It would be very uncomfortable for pupils to wear these all day and we want pupils to feel comfortable in their learning environment. If children decide to wear facemasks on the journey to school, these must be safely packed away on arrival to school. School staff will be required to wear face masks in all the communal areas of the school and we also ask that parents wear face masks when dropping off/collecting children from school.

#### 20. How are you going to keep children apart in a class of 30 with not much spare room in classrooms?

Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that we can keep children apart at all times. We can only educate children about staying safe during COVID. We want children to feel comfortable and happy at school. We will use all spaces available (as usual) to educate pupils.

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21. On the days children have P.E., do they come to school in their P.E. kits or do they change at school as normal?

On your child's P.E. day, they are asked to come to school dressed in their P.E. clothes, and they will stay in these clothes for the duration of the day.

22. Can children still pay for snack or, if not, can children bring snack into school?

Should you wish your child to receive snack in school for this half term (up to Thu 1<sup>st</sup> Apr) the cost is £7.60 (for children in Reception); £5.70 (for children in Year 1); £5.40 (for children in Year 2 & 6); £5.10 (for children in Years 3, 4 & 5). These calculations are based on the phased return of children w/c 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Please send the money in a sealed envelope with your child's name, class and the amount enclosed clearly written on the envelope. Money not sent this way will not be accepted. Children will be asked to place the envelope in a basket/tub provided in the classroom; please do not hand it to staff. **Please ensure the correct money is given as change cannot be provided at this time.**

Snack will be provided in class groups, be individually wrapped when possible, and will be handed to children by staff wearing gloves. Children will be encouraged to wash their hands before and after snack.

Should you wish your child to bring their own snack to school, please ensure this is a 'healthy' snack such as: fresh or dried fruit, breadsticks, fruit, rice cakes, crackers & cheese. Items such as chocolate, biscuits, crisps, cereal bars etc. are not permitted.

23. I have multiple children at school in different year groups. If one of my children's class bubble/year group is told not to come to school due to a positive case, how can I bring my other children to school when one has to isolate?

If you drive, stay in your car with your hazard lights on and a member of staff will come and collect your other children from you and bring them into school. The same will happen at the end of the day where a member of staff will return your children to your car.

If you walk to school, please stay outside the school premises with all your children (including the child who is isolating), ensuring social distancing is observed, and a member of staff will come and collect your other children from a pre-arranged location. Again, the same will happen at the end of the day where a member of staff will return your children to you.

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In both the above instances, please contact the school office beforehand to advise that you need the above assistance, and to arrange the drop-off/pick-up points.

24. My child's class bubble/year group has been told not to come to school due to a positive case. This means I cannot go to work, I have no other means of childcare and I am at risk of losing my job. What can the school do in this instance?

For the protection of pupils and staff at school your child must isolate until it is safe for him/her to return to school. We can provide a letter confirming that your child is not allowed in school, which you can give to your employer.

25. How much is dinner money when the children return to school?

Dinner money (up to the end of term on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April) for children in Years 3, 4 & 5 is £30.60; dinner money for children in Year 6 is £32.40. These calculations are based on the phased return of children w/c 8<sup>th</sup> March.