



St. Peter's Church of England Primary School, Heswall

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Caring for all, committed to excellence.



28th August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Arrangements For September 2020

Further to my letter dated 15th July, I am writing to provide information about arrangements for all pupils returning to school in September. I want to let you know how school will operate. However, these arrangements are based on current advice and may be subject to change, according to Local Authority and government guidance.

To ensure that all children settle back into school quickly, we propose to operate the school day as close to normal as possible. The children should not be aware of any significant changes to the school environment and the teachers have been making preparations to deliver the full curriculum. We know that the children will be starting the year at different points academically and the teachers will be assessing the children so that they can modify the curriculum where needed to address gaps in the children's knowledge.

We have carefully considered the government's latest guidance and made a judgement about how to balance and minimise any risks from COVID-19 with providing a full educational experience for all children. The measures we will implement are already well established and will continue when all pupils return in September:

1. A requirement that people who are ill stay at home
2. Robust hand and respiratory hygiene
3. Enhanced cleaning arrangements
4. Reduction in contacts

1. A requirement that people who are ill stay at home

Your child must not attend school if they or a household member are displaying coronavirus symptoms. The most common symptoms of coronavirus are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For further information about symptoms and self-isolation, please read <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

For Covid-19 testing see: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> and <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>

If your child displays any symptoms of COVID-19 when in school we will notify you to arrange immediate collection. We will also contact the local Public Health England team to obtain guidance and support on further measures within the school community. Please let us know the outcome of any COVID-19 test immediately.

A REMINDER TO ALL FAMILIES THAT IF YOU HAVE TRAVELLED TO ENGLAND FROM ONE OF THE COUNTRIES OR TERRITORIES NOT INCLUDED ON THE GOVERNMENTS TRAVEL CORRIDOR LIST IN THE LAST 14 DAYS, YOU WILL NEED TO ENSURE YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE FULL 14 DAY ISOLATION PERIOD BEFORE RETURNING TO SCHOOL. YOU CAN ACCESS THE UP TO DATE TRAVEL CORRIDOR LIST [HERE](#). YOU WILL ALSO FIND A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND OTHER USEFUL DOCUMENTS ON THE NEW TAB OF OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE [HERE](#).

If you need to self-isolate as detailed above, please inform the school office for our absence records.

2. Robust hand and respiratory hygiene

COVID-19 is an easy virus to kill when it is on skin. This can be done with soap and running water or hand sanitiser. We will be ensuring that all pupils clean their hands regularly, including when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating. Regular and thorough hand cleaning is going to be needed for the foreseeable future. Please help us by talking to your child about the importance of hand hygiene: washing hands regularly for at least 20 seconds using soap and warm water.

The 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important and we will have enough tissues and bins available in the school to support pupils and staff with this routine. Public Health England does not (based on current evidence) recommend the use of face coverings in primary schools. This evidence will be kept under review. Face coverings may be worn on the journey to and from school.

3. Enhanced cleaning arrangements

Cleaning across the school will be generally enhanced to include:

- More frequent cleaning of rooms and shared areas that are used by different groups
- More frequent cleaning of touched surfaces
- More frequent cleaning of toilets

4. Reduction in contacts

In welcoming all children back in September, schools are asked to minimise the number of contacts that a pupil has during the school day as far as is reasonably practicable given the school's setting.

We will minimise contacts and mixing between people by reducing overcrowding at key times:

1. Arrivals and Departures
2. Collective Worship
3. Playtimes
4. Lunchtimes

1. Arrivals and Departures

To avoid traffic congestion parents are encouraged to park away from school and walk. Pupils must be accompanied by an adult. Social distancing should be closely observed between adults at all times.

The usual pedestrian gates (Bottom Gate and Top Gate) should be used for entry and exit. Arrival and departure times have been staggered to avoid overcrowding.

Arrivals

Early Years – (Top Gate from 8.40am – 8.50am)

Foundation 2 – (Top Gate from 8.50am – 9.00am)

Year 1 - (Top Gate from 9.00am – 9.10am)

Year 2 – (Bottom Gate from 9.00am – 9.10am)

Year 3 - (Top Gate from 9.10am – 9.20am)

Year 4 - (Bottom Gate from 9.10am – 9.20am)

Year 5 - (Bottom Gate from 8.50am – 9.00am)

Year 6 - (Bottom Gate from 8.50am – 9.00am)

Departures

Early Years – (Top Gate at 3.10pm)

Foundation 2 – (Top Gate at 3.20pm)

Year 1 - (Top Gate at 3.30pm)

Year 2 – (Bottom Gate at 3.30pm)

Year 3 - (Top Gate at 3.40pm)

Year 4 - (Bottom Gate at 3.40pm)

Year 5 - (Bottom Gate at 3.20pm)

Year 6 - (Bottom Gate at 3.20pm)

Parents and carers should not enter the school building under any circumstances. Parents and carers should arrive at their allocated time to prevent overcrowding and follow social distancing.

2. Collective Worship

Large gatherings such as Collective Worship are not permitted. This will be reviewed at October half term and instead children will take part in collective worship within their class.

3. Playtimes

Year groups will be allocated a designated space within the school grounds for playtime. Playtimes will be staggered so that year groups do not mix.

4. Lunchtimes

Year groups will be allocated a designated space within the school grounds for a 30-minute playtime during lunch. Each year group will also have a 30-minute indoor session for eating their lunch. Lunchtimes will be staggered so that year groups do not mix.

Entering the school building

Unfortunately, parents will not be able to enter the school building unless an appointment is made by prior arrangement. If you need to contact school, such as to arrange dropping off medicine, we ask that you please email or phone the school office. In emergency situations,

where face to face appointments are the only option, this will be arranged by appointment only so that adequate social distancing arrangements can be made.

School Uniform

All pupils should return to school in September wearing school uniform. Please refer to the School Uniform section in the 'Parent Tab' on the school website for all the details. School uniforms do not need to be washed any more differently or regularly than usual.

School Meals

The school kitchen will resume normal service in September for those children who wish to have a school meal. Those children in Foundation Stage 2, Year 1 and Year 2 will still be entitled to a school meal under the Universal Free School Meal scheme. For those children who pay for a school meal the cost will remain at £2.40.

Before and After School Club - Paintbox

Paintbox Before and After School Club will be open as normal from September. If you do require a place at Paintbox for your child/ren from September, please email Maria and Alan Hudson on marialhudson@aol.com or phone 07781 531657.

We understand that some parents may have concerns and anxieties over children returning to school. Please feel assured that we are doing our utmost to ensure that stringent safety measures are in place and we are continually reviewing and revising our systems and procedures in line with LA and government guidance.

We are looking forward to welcoming all our families, especially our children back to school on Wednesday 2nd September.

Thank you for your continued support

Yours sincerely,



Darren Jones
Headteacher