

FAQs

Drop off, pickup and coming to school

Please can you confirm the start and finish for each year group in September?

Year 6 & 5	0830 – 1500
Year 4 & 3	0845 - 1515
Year 2	0900 – 1510
Year 1 & Foundation	0900 – 1500

Why have the timings changed since those first published?

In response to early feedback from parents and staff, and reflecting on national discussions, we have altered the timing within the day and have endeavoured to come closer to the usual start and finish times. However, the guidance makes it clear that we have to stagger the start and finish times to alleviate congestion and decrease risk of transmission.

How can I manage the start and end of the day if my children are in two different phases?

The children can both start and at the later time if you chose. A sibling cannot be dropped off earlier. If the sibling is arriving later than their peers please inform the school of this arrangement so we can discuss the child's route into school. Children will finish at the new designated times. Parents will be able to move into a new waiting area.

How will I drop off my child in the morning?

The year 5 and year 6 children will be encouraged to come into school independently through the Sladesbrook gates. All other year groups are to use the Berryfield entrance. We ask that the children are dropped off at the gate. They will line up with their peers. Years 2, 3 and 4 will line up alongside the kitchen hedge. All the children will be met by their teachers. We ask that parents move away from the entrance quickly. Foundation will line up and enter through the gate next to the bungalow. Year 1 will enter through their outside play gate way.

How will I collect my child at the end of the day?

This response is different from the one originally given. Following concerns from the local highways department, the school will now operate a system of collection using the school grounds. A map is attached.

As parents and carers, you will enter the school site from the Berryfield Road entrance. A strict one-way system will be in place. The exit point will be the Sladesbrook entrance. It is important for us all that the new entry and exits are adhered to. On the school site there will be different collection points. We ask that you wait in the designated area and the children will come to you. Once you have collected your child we ask that you leave the site quickly through the gates onto Sladesbrook (parents of Foundation Stage and Year 1 will be able to continue to using the Berryfield Road entrance because of the location of the collection points). The use of this system is to stagger the pickup, avoid bottlenecks and remove the need for parents to queue on the pavements around school. Please note we ask you to remain socially distant and we have staggered exit times to alleviate congestion.

Is there a limit on how many adults can meet a child at the end of the day?

We ask that only one adult from the family picks up their child and maintains socially distant from others around the site.

I am a parent of a year 1 child and another in an older year group, what is my route?

We ask that you collect the year 1 child and then move into the main grounds, past the kitchen gates, and meet your older child. You would then leave the school site by the Sladesbrook gates.

I am a Foundation stage parent, what is my route for pickup?

At the end of the day enter the schools main grounds past the kitchen gates. Follow the path to the Foundation Stage playground. The children will come out to meet you. You can then leave through the side gates next to the bungalow and out through the Berryfield entrance. If you have an older child you should move to the new waiting area and exit via the Sladesbrook entrance.

What if I am late in the mornings?

We totally understand that sometimes coming into school after registration is unavoidable. If you are going to be late then please bring your child to the main reception where they can be signed in.

Will the induction day follow the staggered drop off and pick up hours?

The induction days will follow the given times

Year 6 & 5	0830 – 1500
Year 4 & 3	0845 - 1515
Year 2	0900 – 1510
Year 1 & Foundation	0900 – 1500

My child wishes to come to school using their scooter or bicycle - where can they park them?

We would encourage children to come to school using a bicycle or scooter. There are scooter and bicycle racks at both ends of the school. If the child is in year 1 then they should use the Berryfield rack. If they are in years 2, 3 or 4 they should come into school through the Berryfield Road entrance, dismount, line up with their peers and then push their scooter or bicycle to the racks at the Sladesbrook end of the school. If the child is in years 5 or 6 they can use the Sladesbrook entrance, dismount, and walk, pushing their scooter or bicycle to the Sladesbrook rack.

Lunch times and playtimes**Can my child play with children from another year group?**

Playtimes will be staggered and we will use different areas of the school site. Children will only be able to play with those from the same year group. Although siblings will come into school together it is unlikely that their break times will coincide with each other.

Communication**How will I be able to communicate with my child’s class teacher?**

The class teacher will make contact with you directly within the first few weeks of the term. This will be by a short telephone call. If you wish to communicate then please do so through the admin@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk and not Class Dojo. Class Dojo will continue and remain live but will not be used for direct contact with the teacher.

My child has an appointment during the school day, how do I collect my child from the school?

We would encourage that appointments should be taken outside the school hours but understand that this is not always possible. Please inform the school of the appointment. If the appointment is mid-morning we ask that the child is kept home until after the appointment. At other times the child will make their way to the office at the allotted time where you will be able to sign them out from the reception.

I am running late for pick-up or there is an emergency, what should I do?

Please contact the school if the arrangements for the end of the day change. It is not always possible to get a message to the classroom. An email will be sent to the class teacher outlining change in pick up. Children are told, if no-one is there to collect them, to come to the school office where they will wait to be collected. You will meet your child at the main office.

Illness

What happens if my child is ill?

If your child shows any symptoms associated with Coronavirus, then they should not be in school. We ask if any symptoms below are shown, you inform the school so that we can take any further action.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child is absent for other reasons i.e. sickness and diarrhoea, then please let the school know in the usual way and keep your child off for the 48 hours.

You can email absence@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk or call 01225 863444 and press 1 to report your child's absence from school.

What happens if my child's teacher is ill?

If the teacher is absent for reasons outside of Coronavirus then another member of staff may supervise the day. However, it may be that the class is not able to open because we are not able to bring in another teacher. If this is the case we will give you as much notice as possible. This arrangement will certainly be the case for term 1 but as the guidance changes we will review the situation.

After School Clubs and Music Lessons

Will there be after school clubs running in September?

The clubs will not be running in term 1 but we will keep reviewing the position should the guidance change.

What about Jam and School Choir?

Mrs Screen will be setting up a virtual choir and Jam through a new Class Dojo page in preparation for when we can meet. More information will follow in September.

When will music lessons begin?

The current guidance indicates that lessons can begin soon. However, we do not have rooms available that can accommodate lessons and which conform to current guidance. The plan is to resume lessons as soon as we can but it is unlikely to be during term 1.

Before and afterschool childcare

What happens with before and afterschool childcare?

The guidance recommends that children and families only use one chosen provider and not mix providers. We are aware that families use several providers across the week but the guidance would require parents to make a choice of a preferred provider. It is our understanding that some providers will refuse to take families where their childcare arrangements cut across more than one provider.

School dinners and morning snacks

Will school dinners start in September?

The kitchen will operate as it was before lockdown but will have a limited menu of only two choices. The meals can be requested daily and paid for using Parent Pay for pupils in years 3 – 6. Foundation, Years 1 and 2 will continue with the Universal Free School Meals scheme and the children will be able to book a meal daily. The menu choice will be served in the hall. Each meal choice will be plated up for the child to collect and take to their table. School meals will be available from 3 September 2020. Children are able to bring in sandwiches which will be eaten either outside or in their classrooms.

Will the Sodexo menu be the same?

The menu will be slightly different. It will be a two-week rolling menu and it will be sent to you separately along with a new allergies form from Sodexo for you to complete. Please only return this form completed if your child has an allergy. You can email it to admin@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk .

Does my child need a snack box?

Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 – No snack required

Years 3-6 – bring in fruit in snack box

The fruit and vegetable scheme for Foundation, Years 1 & 2 is operating from September. Your child will not need to bring in any snack. Children in Years 3 – 6 will need to bring in a fruit snack. The snack boxes will be kept in the classroom or their lockers.

School uniform and PE kit

Will my child need to wear school uniform?

Your child will be expected to wear full school uniform. This will be mixed with PE kit on PE days. The guidance states that uniforms will not need to be cleaned more than usual.

Will the school still expect children to come to school in their PE kit on PE days?

Yes please. The timetable for the term will be given out during the induction days. On the days your child will be having PE they will be expected to come into school wearing their PE kit. PE kit will not be kept in school.

Curriculum

What will the curriculum look like in September?

In my last letter I spoke of the recovery curriculum and what this meant for Christ Church. However, the term 'recovery' is now being adopted by many outside organisations and has a different definition to the one we shared. Therefore, at Christ Church we are using the term 're-engagement curriculum'. We want to ensure that the children re-engage with learning in school; re-engage with the curriculum; and re-engage with peers and staff. Most children have maintained their learning over the lock down and school will acknowledge this aspect when planning for the new term. Teachers' starting points will be the usual start for the academic year. It will not be from the point of lockdown. The government would like schools to be in a position where the standard curriculum will be taught by the end of the summer term. At Christ Church we have ambition that this should be sooner which is why we published end of term 3 as our aim. Up to this point, there may be some squeeze on some aspects of the curriculum.

Academic year calendar

Will class assemblies still go ahead?

Although the school is unable to meet as a collective body we would still like to maintain our tradition of celebrating the work of the children. Our plan is that the assemblies still go ahead but the audience will be parents and carers who will sit in socially distanced groups. We would also plan to have the other class in the year group present.

Are there any definite changes to the published calendar for term 1?

Yes. When the calendar was put together the guidance we are now working to wasn't published. We felt that it would be easier to cancel events and find alternatives rather than give short notice of an event.

Monday 7 September	-	Welcome meeting Years 1 & 2	-	cancelled
Tuesday 8 September	-	Welcome meeting Years 3 & 4	-	cancelled
Wednesday 9 September	-	Welcome meeting Years 5 & 6	-	cancelled

As we are still unable to meet in a large group the above events have been cancelled. However, during the first few weeks of the term your child's class teacher will contact you through a short telephone call to discuss how well your child is settling in and maybe discuss the year group expectations.

15-22 September	-	Curriculum evenings	-	cancelled
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These will be re-arranged later in the school year.

There are also some events which will still be subject to change