



Christ Church CE VC Primary School

Aspire, celebrate and learn...

12 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another term, I write to wish everyone a good half term. I know that many of you were hoping to get away but with the current restrictions, this is not possible. The school has maintained its COVID-secure practice and I know that after school the temptation for families to meet up is a pressure but let's hope that by all of us following the guidance, we can all remain safe and well.

During half term, we need to ask that should any pupil or staff member test positive within 48 hours of last being in school they need to let the school know. This is because of the track and trace guidance. Therefore, if the school did have a positive case in your child's bubble then we would let you now.

If this is the case, please call 07745781956. This phone will be checked several times throughout the day during the half term week.

Returning to school on 22 February 2021

Children of key workers and those in school already will return to school on 22 February as planned. For everyone else, remote learning will continue. The routines already established for those in school will continue.

8 March 2021 return

The government announced several weeks ago that the earliest schools would possibly re-open would be 8 March 2021. Although this is only three weeks away we are yet to have this confirmed or have seen any guidance.

I understand that an announcement is likely to be made next week with a 'government planned road map' from 22 February 2021. My assumption is that primary schools will be asked to re-open to all pupils. Should this be the case then below is a FAQ summary of how we would manage the return whilst still limiting the points of transmission.

Summary of return – assuming school will re-open on 8 March 2021

What time does the day begin?

- Registration closes at 9.00am for all pupils.

Timings Start of the day	Years 5 & 6	8.45am (gates open at 8.40-8.55am)
	Years 3 & 4	8.45am (gates open at 8.40-8.55am)
	Years 2, 1 & Foundation	8.50am (gates open at 8.50-8.55am)



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What are the arrangements for dropping off?

- Children arrive at school between 8.40 and 8.55am. Our new system of children entering school on their own has had a noticeable impact on their independence. We therefore will continue with this.
- The children in Foundation and Year 1 will be left at the Berryfield entrance.
- The children in Years 2 – 6 can be dropped off at either entrance to the school.
- We ask the parents to wait outside the school and let the children come into school on their own.

What time does school finish?

End of the day	Years 4 & 6	3.20pm	Collection from the designated areas Years 5 & 6 can be met from Sladesbrook gate. Thank you for keeping your social distancing when waiting to collect your child and for wearing a face covering. Please continue to maintain this.
	Year 5	3.15pm	
	Year 2 & 3	3.10pm	
	Year 1 & Foundation	3.00pm	

What are the arrangements for collection?

- Gates will open for parents to enter at 3.00pm.
- Both Berryfield and Sladesbrook can be used.
- Entry point from Berryfield is past the kitchen
- We ask that you wait in the designated area and follow the one-way system.
- Exit can be at both ends of the site. Sladesbrook or Berryfield via the music mobile/bungalow.
- We ask that face coverings continue to be worn on the school site.

What happens if I want to collect my child during the school day?

- Contact the school by phone or email. Arrangements will then be made for the pupil to come to the reception area where you will sign your child out.

What day will my child have PE?

- Children will wear school uniform apart from their PE days when they will come dressed in their PE kit.
 - Foundation – Friday
 - Year 1 – Thursday
 - Year 2 – Tuesday
 - Year 3 – Wednesday
 - Year 4 – Thursday
 - Year 5 – Wednesday
 - Year 6 – Tuesday

What will happen if there is a positive test in school?

- If there is a positive test in school, depending on the level and number of close contacts, the school may need to close a 'bubble'.

- A bubble is likely to be a whole year group. If there is the need to close a bubble you will be informed at the earliest opportunity.
- The school will be closed for these pupils and the children will switch to remote learning the day after closure.
- Work will be posted through Google Classroom.

Will Google Classroom continue?

- Yes, for the reason above.
- We are also reviewing the possibility that the platform may be used for home learning and homework in the future.

What arrangements are in place to maintain COVID-secure measures?

The school will use the measures successfully introduced during Terms 1, 2 and 3 i.e.

- creating bubbles;
- limiting mixing of children;
- regular handwashing and sanitisation;
- staggered lunchtimes and breaktimes;
- twice weekly testing of all staff;
- extra cleaning during the day;
- designated play areas;
- designated toilet areas;
- designated areas for staff;
- regular checks on well-being;
- one-way system when moving around school;
- limiting visitors on site;
- using technology for meetings where possible.

What are the arrangements for Terms 5 and 6?

This will depend on the guidance. If the measures taken already have worked then it may be that the school could return to some of its pre-lockdown practices. However, we need to remain mindful to continue to limit points of transmission. Some practice which we have in place now will continue i.e sanitizing stations, pupil independence on entry, staggered lunchtimes and break times, regular handwashing and maintaining current hygiene levels.

Will my child be able to have a school lunch?

- The kitchen continues to remain open.
- Foundation and KS1 (Years 1 & 2) pupils will be entitled to a hot meal.
- For Years 3 – 6 the service of hot meals will continue and payment is through Parent Pay.

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- The menu is available on the website.
- For families in receipt of Free School Meals then the usual procedures remain in place with the likelihood that vouchers may be issued over the Easter break.

Will the curriculum be any different?

If children are to return on 8 March then, for the well-being of all children and staff, we want to create a sense of normality. This is what school is like. There will be topic launches and lands, there will be opportunities to re-engage pupils back into learning by setting a normal timetable. Emphasis will be given to well-being, core subjects of English and maths and the regular timetable of all other areas. For some children they may need additional support but we would intervene in the way we have always done through additional support during lesson time.

During next term I will write in more detail giving our response to the latest guidance. As a school we only ever receive information at the same time as you do. In the meantime, if you have any questions which could be included next term in an FAQ paper then please email them to school.

I wish you all a safe half-term and thank you all for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Baker', written in a cursive style.

Neil Baker
Headteacher