



# *Our Reconnection Plan*

*September 2020*



## **Current guidance**

The Government guidance released on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 provided us with a context for their decision to request that schools open to all children from September and issued guidance for schools to adhere to and manage when opening. The guidance issued can be found in full [here](#).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Updated 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

At The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary we have been working hard on our plans for a full reopening ensuring that we:

- fulfil the expectations required of us;
- ensure that the safety of everyone is paramount in all our decisions and actions;
- continue to provide a high quality, well balanced curriculum to best support our pupils in their education.

## **Keeping children and staff safe**

**All schools must comply with health and safety law which requires them to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. Essential measures include:**

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home;
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene;
- enhanced cleaning arrangements;
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace;
- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school, wherever possible, and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable.

All schools have been provided with a set of actions to ‘prevent’ and ‘respond to infection’ which are summarised below:

### **Prevention:**

- minimise contact with individuals who are unwell
- clean hands thoroughly and more often than usual
- ensure good respiratory hygiene - ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’
- enhanced cleaning
- minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible
- where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

### **Response to any infection:**

- engage with the NHS Test and Trace process
- manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community
- contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice

## **Class and phase ‘bubbles’**

We will group each phase (Foundation, KS1, LKS2 and UKS2) into ‘bubbles’ which will remain consistent and separate from other ‘bubbles’.

For the majority of their time in school, the children will be in their own class bubble with their own teacher and support staff, but at playtimes and lunchtimes they will be separated into phases that will only have limited contact with other phases.

This will *‘make it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may need to self-isolate, and keep that number as small as possible’*.

## **Attendance**

All children will be welcomed back to The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School from Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 and attendance is mandatory unless children are on an individual plan, and arrangements have been made with Mrs Auburn (Family support Worker) or Ms Green (SEND/CO). Please see the updated attendance policy on the school website for further information on this.

We support the government here which notes:

- *parents’ duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;*
- *schools’ responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence;*
- *the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities’ codes of conduct.*

## **Shielding children**

Shielding advice for all adults and children will pause on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020. Where a pupil is unable to attend school because they are complying with clinical and/or public health advice, please contact Mrs Auburn our Family Support Worker ([familysupport@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk](mailto:familysupport@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk)) and we will work with you to support your child the best possible way we can.

## **Before Your Child Leaves Home in the Morning**

Please check for any of the following symptoms

- a high temperature;
- a new, continuous cough;
- a loss of or change to the sense of smell or taste.

If any of these symptoms are evident do not send them to school, contact our absence line on

- 01604 714399 or email [admin@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk) you can also log an absence via ParentMail Government advice must be followed.



## **Travel to and from school**

We encourage parents, carers, staff and pupils to walk, use a scooter or cycle to school if at all possible. Children and families should ensure they are following social distancing guidelines whilst travelling to and from school.

Face coverings are required at all times on public transport (including for children, over the age of 11).

**Parents should not congregate at the school gates to have a chat or a catch up.**

## **Morning Drop Offs**

### **First day back – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020**

Children in Reception and Year 1 will enter through the main gates to the carpark at 8.35am to arrive in class at 8.45am. Children will enter via the external classroom doors. They will be asked to sanitize. Parents must drop off and leave the site promptly following the one way system we introduced before summer.

Year 5 and 6 will enter the pedestrian gates at 8.35am to arrive in class at 8.45am Children will enter via the external classroom doors. They will be asked to sanitize. Parents must drop off and leave the site promptly following the one way system we introduced before summer. Year 5 and 6 should be able to enter the site on their own **but no earlier than 8.35am.**

Children in Year 2 will enter through the main gates to the carpark at 8.55am to arrive in class at 9.00am. Children will enter via the external classroom doors. They will be asked to sanitize. Parents must drop off and leave the site promptly following the one way system we introduced before summer.

Year 3 and 4 will enter the pedestrian gates at 8.55am to arrive in class at 9.00am. Children will enter via the external classroom doors. They will be asked to sanitize. Parents must drop off and leave the site promptly following the one way system we introduced before summer.

To ease congestion, we will continue to have staggered start and finish times. **It is important that we do not have parents congregating at the school gates and that we limit the number of interactions across bubbles.**

We would encourage only 1 parent/adult to drop off and collect to help minimise the number of adults on site.

Where possible, particularly with older children we would ask parents to drop at the gate in the mornings.

### **Morning - Drop Off Times**

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>From 3<sup>rd</sup> September onwards</b>
Year EYFS, 1	8.35-8.45am Please enter school via the car park gate and line up outside the door to your classroom socially distanced from others
Year 2	8.55- 9.00am Please enter school via the car park gate and line up outside the door to your classroom socially distanced from others
Year 3, 4	8.55- 9.00am Please enter school via the pedestrian gate and line up outside the door to your classroom socially distanced from others
Year 5, 6	8.35-8.45am Please enter school via the pedestrian gate and line up outside the door to your classroom socially distanced from others

### **End of the day – Collection**

Parents are requested to line up socially distanced outside child's class and your child will be brought to you. Once you have collected your child, please leave the area and the school site as quickly as possible to allow the next group of parents to line up to collect their children.

Please can parents ensure they are on time to ensure a swift collection. This system has been working very effectively during reopening for the priority year groups, however in September there will be a greater number of pupils being collected and a shorter period of time between each collection. This is to support families with siblings.

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Time and Collection Point</b>
EYFS	12.00 (from 3/09/20 – 11/09/20) 1.00pm (from 14/09/20 – 18/09/20) 3.00pm (from 21/09/20 onwards) Please enter main gate to car park, following one way system to collect your child from their classroom.
1	3.00pm Please enter main gate to car park, following one way system to collect your child from their classroom.
2	3.15pm Please enter main gate to car park, following one way system to collect your child from their classroom.
3 and 4	3.15pm Please enter pedestrian gate to car park, following one way system to collect your child from their classroom
5 and 6	3.00pm Please enter pedestrian gate to car park, following one way system to collect your child from their classroom

**\*\*Please note we will review the collection arrangements regularly in September to ensure they are working effectively and we are happy with the safety precautions in place. Please be aware we will make amendments to timings if we feel it is necessary.**

## Arrangements in school

Children in EYFS (and Year One in the autumn term) will be following a free flow, play-based curriculum. Whole class teaching sessions will be no longer than 15 minutes and all classrooms will be well ventilated. It will not be possible, nor is it required, to enforce social distancing measures with children in EYFS. This means that children will come into contact with all the children in their class and they are likely to come into contact with all the children in the year group during outside free flow and lunchtimes. Children will wash their hands often and surfaces and equipment will be regularly sanitised.



## Learning resources

For individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, staff and pupils will have their own items that are not shared. Classroom based resources, such as books and games, can be used and shared within the class bubble; these will be cleaned regularly, along with all frequently touched surfaces. In KS1 and KS2, resources that are shared between classes or bubbles, such as sports, art and science equipment will be cleaned frequently and meticulously and always between bubbles, or rotated to allow them to be left unused and out of reach for a period of 48 hours (72 hours for plastics) between use by different bubbles.

## Assemblies

There will be no traditional whole school or key stage assemblies during the first part of the autumn term and these will be replaced by a Virtual Celebration Assembly, which will be watched by children in multiple classrooms on touchscreens.

We are keeping an open mind about Harvest and Christmas productions but all should be aware that, even at this early stage, full-scale productions look unlikely in the autumn term.



## Reading Books

Reading books will be shared in bubbles. We are hoping to set up a system which will enable books to go home. This will require books to be placed in a box and left for 72 hours before returning to the shelves. More details to follow. If your child has a reading book at home, please return it on the first day back in September.

## Enhanced cleaning regimes

Since lockdown and opening for keyworker children, our school has had enhanced cleaning systems in place and has also been regularly deep cleaned. We have adjusted our cleaning rotas with our site team to ensure that more regular cleaning goes on during the school day –

with particular attention paid to those surfaces that are frequently touched, like door handles. School staff not normally involved in these duties like teachers and support staff have also been helpful in keeping their own classrooms clean and extra materials have been provided for this purpose. We anticipate these arrangements will stay in place until further notice.

### Coats and bags

Initially we would ask children to hang their coats on their own chairs in their own classrooms. Please keep items brought into school to a minimum as much as possible. Children should only bring their packed lunch and a drinks bottle. This will be in class under their desk therefore it is important that it is in a small bag. Not a rucksack with long straps.

### The importance of fresh air

Windows and doors will be left open as much as possible to aid ventilation. Teachers will plan as many outdoor learning activities and therefore it is essential that the children come suitably dressed for all weather possibilities.

### After School Clubs Plan

As there is a huge need to get our children back being physically active, The Good Shepherd is planning on organising sports clubs for the first half term a little differently.

We will be offering every child in the school from years 1-6 a chance to take part in a multi-sport club for FREE!



#### **Starting: W/C 14<sup>th</sup> September (for 6 weeks)**

This will be at no extra cost and offered on a first come first served basis, letters to go out W/C 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Please see below for when your child will be able to take part in a club. We can only offer it to the first 20 children in each year group so places will be given on a first come first serve basis with slips returned to the office drop off point.

#### **Year group plan:**

**Clubs 3:15-4:15pm**

*(Multi Sports club- playing lots of fun games to get the children engaged and active)*

<b>TUESDAY</b> afterschool		<b>WEDNESDAY</b> afterschool		<b>THURSDAY</b> afterschool	
YEAR 1	Mr Pearce	YEAR 3	Mr Pearce	YEAR 2	Mr Pearce
YEAR 5	Mr Flanagan	YEAR 4	Mr Flanagan	YEAR 6	Mr Flanagan

**These are the same days as your child has PE so will already be in PE kit.**

We will then reassess options for the following half term, hopefully moving towards what we have offered in the past.



## **School Office**

The School Office will remain closed to personal visitors. Parents and carers should do all they can to ensure that children have all that they need for the day (e.g. packed lunches) at the start of the day and if there is an instance where their child needs to be collected at a different time, they should telephone or e-mail the school to make arrangements with as much notice as possible. Senior staff will then arrange to meet parents with their child in the open air. All other communication should be done by telephone or e-mail as far as possible.

Tel: 01604 714399

[admin@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk)

[bursar@thegoodshepherd.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:bursar@thegoodshepherd.northants-ecl.gov.uk)

[familysupport@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk](mailto:familysupport@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk)

## **Communication**

Communication with parents is really important to us. Due to the current restrictions, we would request that meetings with members of staff are by prior arrangement only so that social distancing and safety precautions can be put in place. Please do this via the contact details above. A member of staff will support you in making these arrangements. Please keep face to face conversations to a minimum at the classroom.

## **Behaviour**

An addendum to our behaviour policy was formulated in June 2020 when the first groups of children returned to school. We have put a new behaviour policy on the website to reflect the changes in how behaviour is tracked but the addendum remains at the end. In the addendum, we have had to change some of our expectations around pupils' behaviour and make these clear to all. In these times of heightened risk to our health, it is important that children and staff are aware that behaviour which jeopardises the health of others, is taken very seriously.



Our Good Shepherd values and ethos remain unchanged, and children are expected to uphold them.

In addition to our Good Shepherd expectations, children must be aware of the new requirements in the addendum namely that they must:

- Stay at least 1+ metres apart from each other wherever possible (with a common sense approach taken to EYFS and younger pupils);
- Use their own specific equipment (including resources) and not share any of these;
- Not share any food, drinks, cups or water bottles;

- Work, eat and play in our designated group and minimise contact with children from other groups (including in the playground, anywhere on the school site and on their way to and from school)
- Move around school as instructed by their teacher/adult and avoiding other people
- Never cough, sneeze or spit towards another person; catch all coughs and sneezes in a tissue and throw it away (catch it, bin it, kill it), then wash their hands
- Wash hands frequently (including whenever we are asked to), with soap and water for 20 seconds (e.g. by singing Happy Birthday twice) or with hand sanitiser if soap and water are not available.

It is essential that the children listen to and follow instructions at all times and adhere to the guidelines set by the government and the school. This is required inside school and outside during breaks and lunches. Any child who is unable to do this is risking the safety of themselves, other children and staff and we will ask parents to collect them immediately. A risk assessment will then be completed to determine whether it is safe to have the child back in school. If we deem a child to be unsafe to have in school, we will work with parents to arrange provision the child can access safely.

### **School lunches.**

We intend to have a full school offer for hot lunches again from the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 provided by Coombs Catering with a return to the normal payment arrangements via our School Gateway Booking System.

Lunch will be delivered to children in their class bubble. Children will not be mixing in the dining hall.



**Year 3 parents should be aware that universal free school dinners do not apply in KS2 and that payment for meals booked will be required.**

If parents are unsure about whether they are entitled to free school meals and need to pay or not, they should contact the school office. We are aware that many families' situations have changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and you could now be entitled to free school meals and the pupil premium funding, please contact the school office and we will support you with this or you can apply directly via the link below:

<https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/Pages/pupil-premium.aspx>

We have arrangements in place to ensure that during lunch time, separation between 'bubbles' is maintained. Children will always have the chance to wash their hands before eating.



## Packed Lunches

Please ensure your child has all the cutlery they need and their meal is easy for them to manage on their own.

## Availability of water on site

All pupils should have their own school water bottle that is untouched by other children or staff. No water fountains are currently available at school. Water is available in school to refill children's own water bottles. Disposable plastic cups may also be available that should be thrown away after use.



## School uniform

It is an expectation that all children will wear the approved school uniform. We expect our children to take great pride in their school and this is reflected in the way they dress. The new School uniform may now be worn.

We would ask that children arrive PE ready on their set day. They can either wear a plain Navy/Black Tracksuit (No logos) and a blue T shirt. A number of parents have asked if children can wear their old school uniform T shirt and sweatshirt on PE days with black or navy tracksuit bottoms. This is a great idea.



V neck sweatshirt with logo / cardigan with logo / grey pinafore / skirt / trousers / white shirt / school tie / black school shoes



PE Kit:



Black or navy shorts or jogging bottoms / sky blue or white t-shirt / black or navy sweatshirt / white or black trainers



### **Uniform Supplier**

The School Uniform Shop is our supplier. Due to the current situation and the size of their shop, delivery is the option available at present.

**Uniform is purchased online or in store from The Schoolwear Shop.**

Visit them at the following address:

The Schoolwear Shop Ltd,  
40 - 42 Abington Square,  
Northampton  
NN1 4AA

You can call them on 01604 635828 or email [info@theschoolwearshop.net](mailto:info@theschoolwearshop.net).

To purchase uniform online, you will need to register with them by going to the website: <https://theschoolwearshop.net/schools-en/good-shepherd-catholic-primary-school/>

## **Curriculum for reconnection**

Whilst we are confident that many children will quickly ‘bounce back’ after the lockdown we are aware that there will be some children returning who have experienced bereavements amongst friends or family or who have experienced anxiety or stress during this time.

In September we have planned to begin our updated PSHE curriculum and we have now reconfigured this for autumn 2020 so that work in all year groups centres on health and wellbeing.



## **Collective positive mind set – contextualising the lockdown**

At The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary, we do not feel that it is helpful to focus on what has been ‘lost’ during the shutdown. A young person’s school career is typically 468 weeks long and most children have been out of school for 14 weeks, which represents below 3% of their total school career. Moreover, during that time many of our children have been working hard and producing good work and have benefited from time spent with their families, exploring and experiencing different opportunities to grow, learn and achieve in different contexts. Our staff will remain calm and measured in September knowing that whatever the situation, we have the staff with the best knowledge and experience of how to teach, support and help our children in ‘closing the gap’ where required. We will not make our children worry unnecessarily or make them think that things are worse than they are and where issues present themselves, our language will reflect a ‘growth mind set’ philosophy – *‘you can’t do it yet’*.

## **Assessment**

Our teachers will make adaptations establishing ‘what has to be learned’ rather than sticking rigidly to our usual long term plans. Class teachers will use their own expertise to establish starting points for each class in the autumn term and will likely have to take ‘a step back’ in order to help children then move forward with confidence but each child and class will be different. In schools, this way of assessing what should be taught next is known as ‘formative assessment’, that is the judgements teachers make on a day-to-day basis during class work which allow them to assess attainment and progress. To strengthen routines, relationships and resilience it is important that, in a measured supportive way, teachers and children get back to established ways of working rather than spending too long on a formal testing regime, especially when children’s confidence will be low.

## **Broad and balanced curriculum**

Although there are some restrictions in place (e.g. singing in large groups) we fully intend to continue with our normal ambitious and broad curriculum in all subjects from the start of the autumn term. We will make use of existing flexibilities to begin at appropriate starting points for all our children and this may mean that not all subjects are taught every term.

## Pupils with additional needs

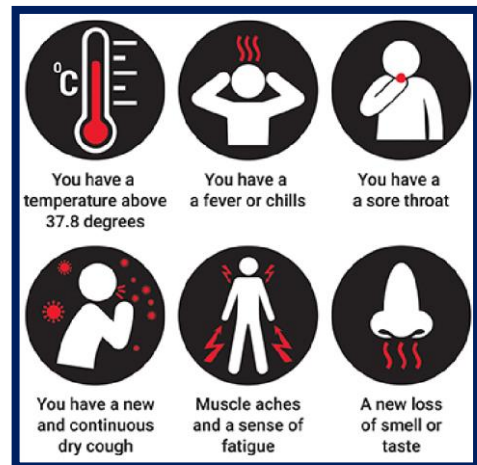
We are aware that for some children with additional needs, returning to school after lockdown may cause additional anxiety or stress. Children with additional needs will be supported by the school inclusion team to ensure a smooth transition when returning to school. Ms Green has been working with our families to support children in their transition back into school. In some cases, children with additional needs may require a risk assessment to be completed.

Staff will continue to be responsive to the needs of individual pupils and additional support will be provided where necessary. Small group or 1:1 support may take a different form in the autumn term so that adults and children remain safe, for example, sitting side by side, staff and pupils working at a greater distance from each other, and working in different parts of the school building. Staff who are in close contact with individual children may wear PPE.

## Children or staff suspected of having COVID-19

In line with DfE guidance, in the case of a suspected infection the school will:

- Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.  
We ask that parents and staff inform the school immediately of the outcome of any test;
- Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community. The school will text or email parents with a notification of a confirmed infection including which 'bubble' this may affect. We will not share the names or details of people suspected of having or conformed to have coronavirus;
- Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice. For the avoidance of doubt, the new advice says that we 'must send home those people who have been in **close contact** with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious.  
  
'Close contact' now means:
  - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin);
  - proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual;
  - travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person.
- When a case is suspected in school, the child will be immediately isolated from other pupils and staff. Staff supervising these children should also try to ensure they remain two metres away while still aiming to provide the reassurance and care particularly young children will



need. Enhanced PPE is available for these staff and older children may be offered a mask. The school will contact parents and request they collect their child from the school immediately.

- We ask that parents whose child has been identified as having a suspected case of COVID-19 should seek immediate medical advice.

The guidance says *'Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test.'*

We expect children to self-isolate according to the Public Health England guidance here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-homeguidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

**Households with a confirmed case of Coronavirus** should follow the advice laid out by Public Health England here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance> regarding isolation and should keep their school informed about their planned date of return following isolation.

**In the event of a local authority (Northampton) wide lockdown**, the school would revert to an enhanced version of the arrangements which were in place during the nationwide lockdown.

### **Wrap around care**

KidsStop will no longer be providing a wrap-around child care service in school.

From **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020** school will provide its **own breakfast club**.



Due to bubble requirements, Breakfast Club will be operating from the main hall.

Wherever possible, we will try to keep children within their own bubbles with the same set of staff. However, this cannot be guaranteed and parents should be aware that children are likely to mix with a limited number of children outside their 'bubble' in breakfast club.

We have made the decision that this was justifiable given that the alternative is no provision at all for working parents. The children will sanitise their hands regularly and additional cleaning measures will be in place.

Booking is available up to an entire term, allowing you to select the days you require. Bookings and payments need to be made through Mrs Rathbone who will be based in front reception on Wednesday afternoons for the following week to ensure a place for your child and adequate staffing levels. Please note, Breakfast club is very popular and sessions do book up in advance.

Session prices are listed below:

**Breakfast Session - without breakfast (8am-9am/9.15am) - £3.00**

**Breakfast Session - includes breakfast (8am-9am/9.15am) - £4.00**

**There will be no entry after 8.15am**

Please email the office for a Breakfast Club form - [bursar@thegoodshepherd.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:bursar@thegoodshepherd.northants-ecl.gov.uk)

### **Questions You May Have**

As there are a number of changes to our normal procedures this term, we've put together a list of possible questions you may have and we hope that this clarifies different aspects of school.

**1. Will school trips be able to go ahead?**

*Government guidelines state that non-residential visits can now take place. However, as a school we have made the decision not to go on any school visits in the Autumn Term due to the extra elements of risk this may add. Instead we'll be aiming to add to the children's curriculum experience with visitors linked to the topic either coming in to school to talk to the children in a socially distanced way, or talk to the children virtually.*

*Swimming will commence and the Barry Road Swimming pool have already been operating under tight restrictions.*

**2. Will there be after-school clubs eg dance, football?**

*We are looking to start after-school clubs in the second half the Autumn Term. We have some work to do to work out how to run these in the safest way possible, so that as many children as possible can benefit from them, whilst maintaining our bubbles.*

**3. Can choir/Young Voices still go ahead?**

*At the moment guidance is not to sing in large groups. We are booked into Young Voices in January but it is very likely that this will be postponed. We'll update you when we have information from Young Voices?*

**4. Can parent/child events still take place eg Harvest Assembly ?**

*At the moment we are unable to hold any events with parents due to restricting the number of people that come into school. As soon as we're safely able to, we will be aiming to hold our usual range of family events.*

**5. I have children in different year groups with different drop off/ collection times. How does this work?**

*Our staggered drop off and collection times are there to minimise the number of people on the school site at once. At collection time please collect children at their designated finish time. This ensures that no learning time is lost.*

**6. My child has asthma/hay fever/allergies and as a result sometimes has a persistent cough. Will they be sent home because of this? Will I have to provide medical evidence to stop them being sent home?**

*This is a difficult question to answer as we will consider every child's individual circumstances. We have to strictly follow the guidance about sending children home if they show any symptoms of Covid-19 but we realise that children have coughs for all kinds of reasons. We will work with families to ensure we get the balance between keeping everyone safe and not sending children home unnecessarily.*

**7. If my family have to isolate, will you be able to provide my child(children) with home learning?**

*Yes. We have a remote learning plan which is available on our school website. Learning will be provided immediately if a child has to isolate.*



**8. Will the children be able to cope with all the changes?**

*We are aiming to make school as normal as we possibly can. Many of the changes we have are to do with procedures which are the responsibility of adults and to the children these routines will just become the way that things happen. However, every child is different and we know that some children will just settle quickly back into the routines of school but others will find it difficult. Staff will be very aware of the pastoral needs of children and we have Mrs Auburn, our Family Support Worker, who will always be available to chat to children and provide support. If your child does come home from school upset about anything please let us know and we can make sure that we support them.*

**9. My child has friends who are in a different year group and he/she is upset about staggered breaks/lunch and not seeing their friends. Will they be able to see friends in different year groups?**

*Unfortunately, we do have to follow guidance about bubbles as this underpins the national strategy for getting children back to school. For the time being children will only have breaks and lunchtimes with their own class. Once national guidance changes on this we will look to going back to our usual systems for playtimes and lunchtimes.*

**10. What will happen if my child is late to school in the morning?**

*Being on time for school is so important and we will be following our usual procedures for when children are late. You will need to sign your child in at the office if you arrive late giving a reason for why they are late. We know that for those children who haven't been at school since March there may be difficulties initially getting back into the morning routine. Please let us know if you are having difficulties getting your child to school in a morning and we will work with you to support you with this.*

**11. A member of our household was shielding during lockdown. Will he/she be safe when my child returns to school?**

*Below is the guidance from the DfE around shielding and returning to school*

**Pupils who are shielding or self-isolating**

We now know much more about coronavirus (COVID-19) and so in future there will be far fewer children and young people advised to shield whenever community transmission rates are high. Therefore, the majority of pupils will be able to return to school. You should note however that:

- a small number of pupils will still be unable to attend in line with public health advice because they are self-isolating and have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves; or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)
- shielding advice for all adults and children will pause on 1 August, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can also return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding. Read the [current advice on shielding](#)
- if rates of the disease rise in local areas, children (or family members) from that area, and that area only, will be advised to shield during the period where rates remain high and therefore they may be temporarily absent (see below).
- some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school (usually at their next planned clinical appointment). You can find more advice from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health at [COVID-19 - 'shielding' guidance for children and young people](#)

**12. Will fire drill procedures have to change?**

*We will have a fire drill early in the new term but we may look to have several drills with a few classes each time. This minimises the chance of children coming into contact with children from other classes. Obviously in the case of a real fire the whole school would evacuate at once as the risk of fire would be far greater than the risk of mixing bubbles.*

**13. We didn't get to go on holiday as ours was cancelled, will we get a fine if we go during term time?**

*Our usual procedures for authorising holidays will apply. Holidays will only be authorised for a very limited set of circumstances and fixed penalty notices will be issued for unauthorised holidays. Children have missed so much school it is critical that they attend well now that they are back.*

**14. Should my child wear fresh uniform every day?**

*We expect children to wear the correct school uniform. Full details of this can be found on our website or in this booklet. Uniforms should be clean and fresh. They do not need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.*

**15. What will you put in place to help children settle in to their new class as many have missed so much time in school?**

*We have already begun transition work in the summer term and in most cases children already know their teacher. Where this is not the case, the teacher will of course carry out activities to help them get to know their teacher and to get them used to being back in school and finding out about the routines.*

*Our Staff focus on the Training Day is Personal and Social Health Education and staff will be discussing things which we may need to put into place for children who are struggling being back in school and it is a high priority of ours as a school to ensure that the wellbeing of children is put first.*

**16. What can we as parents do to help our children catch up with gaps in learning and skills?**

*We would ask you place a focus on practising reading, spellings and times tables. We'll send this out early in the new term. The most important thing that you can do as parents is to read with your child every day and to practise spellings/times tables. Children can access a range of resources on Purple Mash and IXL and TT Rockstars.*

**We look forward to seeing you in school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
September 2020.**