

Questions related to Reopening the School from Monday 8th March 2021



Focus	Question	Response
Attendance	Does my child have to attend school?	<p>School attendance will be mandatory again from Monday 8th March 2021. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parents' duty to ensure 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
Pupils shielding or self-isolating	Does a child who is being shielded due to being considered extremely clinically vulnerable, or is self-isolating, have to attend school?	<p>A small number of pupils will still be unable to attend in line with public health advice to self-isolate because they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have symptoms or have had a positive test result • live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive and are a household contact • are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19). <p>There is growing evidence that many children identified at the start of the pandemic as clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) are not at increased risk of serious outcomes from coronavirus (COVID-19) and children are gradually being removed from the shielding patient list (SPL) as appropriate, following review with a clinician. The advice for pupils who have been confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable is to shield and stay at home as much as possible until further notice. They are advised not to attend school while shielding advice applies nationally. Parents/carers must provide a copy of the shielding letter sent to CEV children, to confirm that they are advised not to attend school or other educational settings whilst shielding guidance is in place. Remote education will be provided to pupils who are unable to attend school because they are complying with government guidance or legislation around coronavirus (COVID-19).</p>

		Where pupils are not able to attend school, as they are following clinical or public health advice related to coronavirus (COVID-19), the absence will not be penalised.
Anxiety about return	I feel anxious about my child returning so can he/she continue to learn at home?	Pupils of compulsory school age must be in school unless a statutory reason applies (for example, the pupil has been granted a leave of absence, is unable to attend because of sickness, is absent for a necessary religious observance etc). Where parents/carers of pupils with significant risk factors are concerned, they should contact the school so we can provide reassurance about the measures we are putting in place to reduce the risk in school.
Uniform	What will children wear?	All children to wear school uniform with footwear that does not need to be changed for break and lunch (only send your child to school in laced shoes if they are able to tie them independently). On a day when a class has PE, all children in that class must wear their PE kit (t-shirt, shorts/tracksuit trousers, trainers) plus school jumper to school, and throughout the day, so they do not have to change their clothes.
Face masks	Will face masks be worn in school?	Children will not wear face masks in school, other than in exceptional circumstances. If a face mask is worn when travelling to school, this must be taken home by the parent/carer or put into a sealed sandwich bag prior to entry and stored in the child's bag until leaving the premises. Staff members will wear face masks in corridors and communal areas, unless they are exempt from doing so (as in government guidance).
Testing	Will my child be tested for COVID-19 at school?	No, primary school children will not be tested at school. Staff in primary schools can choose to do twice weekly LFD tests to support reduced transmission of COVID-19 virus.
Parents/carers on site	Will parents/carers be able to enter the school site/building?	No parents/carers to enter site unless prearranged meeting – this will only be done in exceptional circumstances where a phone call will not suffice. Contact should be made via the school office to arrange this, by phone or email.
Drop off and pick up	How will drop off and pick up be arranged?	Each class will enter and exit the school at set times via the main gate. Only one adult should do the school run for each child. Parents/carers are to queue in two metre spacings, which are marked on the fence/path and playground, ensuring their children are with them, not moving around.

	What do I do if I have 2, or more, children attending school and their drop off/pickup times are different?	Parents/carers should bring their children at the earliest drop off time when looking at their children's bubble times, and collect at the latest pick up time for their children's bubbles.
Back gate	Will the back gate be open for children to enter/exit the school site?	All children (Reception - Year 6) will enter and exit at the front of the building; the back gate will remain closed.
Contact with class teacher	How do parents/carers communicate with their child's class teacher?	Due to the fact that parents/carers will not be able to talk to staff when dropping off and picking up their children, parents/carers are asked to email to the year group email address if they want to get a message to class teachers (please put class name and pupil's initials in the subject bar). Emails will be monitored daily at 8am by class teachers. Urgent communication after this time must be through the school office. Teachers will usually respond to emails through a telephone call during working hours. Staff will aim to respond to all emails within 48 hours. At the end of the day, class teachers will make telephone calls to provide relevant information about a pupil's day, where necessary. Where contact is not possible, an email will be sent from the year group email.
Classes mixing	How will you minimise class groups mixing?	Classes will remain in their designated room at all times unless it is their allocated break/lunch time or for toilet use. There will be a one-way system around the main building. We will have staggered entry/exit points and times, plus staggered break times and lunch times.
Social distance	How will you maintain social distancing?	We will not be able to guarantee that staff and children will maintain social distancing at all times, despite the many measures that will be in place to support this. Signs, floor markings, cones etc will support social distancing where possible.
School Bags	Will children bring in school bags?	None to be brought in.
Books Bags	Will children bring in book bags?	Children can bring a named book bag into school – only essential items to be carried in it.

PE kits	Will children bring in PE kits?	No – they will wear their PE kit, plus school jumper, on their PE day (see uniform section above).
Snacks	Will children be able to have a snack at break time?	We are uncertain about whether we will receive free fruit/vegetables for Reception and KS1 children when they first return to school. Therefore, all children (Reception – Year 6) can bring a piece of fruit or a vegetable in to eat at break time. This should be clearly named.
Milk	Will milk still be available for my child?	No milk will be available in the spring term.
Lunch Boxes	How will school manage lunch boxes?	If children bring in their own packed lunch box, this will be kept on their class trolley and accessed at lunchtime. No food containing nuts to be brought onto school premises. Children will not be allowed to share food.
Lunch times	How will lunch times be managed?	All children will eat lunch in school, either sent in from home or provided by the school (free to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children and children who are eligible for free school meals). Lunch will be eaten in a hall, for Reception and Year 1 children, or classrooms, for Years 2-6 children, with children staying in their class groups. Each class group will have an allocated Midday Assistant to support them throughout lunch time. Each class group will have a period of time outside on the playground.
Water Bottles	How will school manage water bottles?	Children will be allowed to bring a water bottle with their name on it that will be kept on their desk. These will only be refilled from their class tap with teacher supervision to avoid bottle/tap contact.
Reading Books	What will children use for reading books?	Children in Reception and KS1 will bring home reading books as usual (RWI Phonics and Oxford Reading Tree). Children in KS2 can choose a book from the class library (containing additional bronze/silver/gold banded books from the school library) or can bring in a book from home. When books are returned, these will go into a quarantine box for three days before being in circulation again.
Recording work	Where will children record their work?	Children will record work in their exercise books and on paper. They will mark their own work with guidance and support from the teacher. Teachers will give verbal feedback to the children.
Stationery	What stationery will children use?	We will provide all stationery for Reception and Year 1 children.

		<p>We encourage children in Years 2-6 to bring in their own pencil case and stationery, which will stay on their desk – any child who does not bring in a pencil case will be provided with a pack of resources.</p> <p>Pencil cases must be plain, traditional style with a zip top, approximate maximum size 20cm x 15cm. They can contain: HB pencils, black and red biro (no roller ball or gel pen), colour pencils (maximum of 12 colours, no felt tips), rubber, 15cm ruler, sharpener (with collector for shavings), glue stick. No novelty items please.</p>
Technology – Children	What technology will children be able to use? I-Pads? PCs?	I-Pads, Chrome Books and PCs in the computer suite will be used – they will be wiped down after use by one class group before another group uses them.
Technology – Staff	What technology will staff be able to use?	Staff will be able to use their PC, interactive whiteboard, visualiser and i-Pad. Staff to wipe down all technology with disinfectant each day.
Textbooks/reading scheme books	Will children use textbooks and reading scheme books?	Where necessary these can be used. Ideally children will have one book per child and these will be quarantined for three days if on rotation.
Toys	How will school manage toys for the younger children?	Any soft furnishings or toys with small parts which will be difficult to clean regularly will either not be used or will be quarantined before using again. Larger toys/balls which are able to be cleaned easily can be used but will be cleaned each day before and after use.
Sand Trays	Will sand trays be in use?	Outdoor sand trays will be used, located so they are exposed to sunlight (UV light disinfection). Sand will be disinfected on a regular basis determined by level of usage. The plastic surface of the sand tray will be wiped with detergent after each session
Water Trays	Will water trays be in use?	Chlorinated water will be used and the water will be discarded after each session.
Playdough	Can children play with Playdough?	Playdough will be issued individually or in small groups.
Lego	Can children play with Lego?	Lego will be put in quarantine for 72 hours before it is used by another group (eg. stock of Lego divided into 1/3 and use a separate stock each day). The Lego table will be disinfected daily.
Bikes and Trikes	Will bikes and trikes be in use for Reception children?	The handles and saddles of bikes and trikes will be wiped between sessions.

Physical activity	How will physical activity be managed?	Social distancing will be encouraged during all play/sport/exercise sessions. Outdoor areas zoned using cones/tape to ensure bubbles are kept separate when outside.
Break and Lunch Activities /Resources	What resources will be available at break and lunch times?	Basketball posts, netball posts and three-way shooter to be available to class groups using sponge balls provided by school. Pupils can bring in a named skipping rope for personal use. [KS2 children can additionally bring in a clearly named Rubik cube]
Climbing Frame	Will the climbing frame be in use?	No
Toilets	How will the use of toilets be managed?	Some staggered times for class groups to use toilets, where possible. Liquid anti-bacterial soap and paper towels to be provided. Everyone to wash hands and apply moisturiser upon return to classroom (pupils' parents to supply for allergy reasons).
Moisturiser/Hand Cream	Will children be able to use hand cream?	Yes – but this must be provided by parents/carers for allergy reasons, labelled with the child's name and will not be shared with other children/adults. Children must be able to apply the hand cream themselves.
Sun Protection	How will school protect children from the sun at break/lunch?	Parents/carers reminded to apply sun cream before children arrive at school and provide sun hat.
First aid	How will first aid be administered to children?	Pupils directed to undertake own first aid where applicable (e.g. washing grazes, application of self-adhesive dressings). If first aider needs to get closer to injured party/suspected infection with Coronavirus to assess or treat, they are to wear PPE (disposable aprons, gloves, face shield). Temperature checks will be made with disposable forehead thermometers.
Breakfast and after school clubs	Will Abacus Breakfast and After School Clubs be running?	Abacus plan to reopen the Breakfast and After School Clubs from Monday 8 th March. They can be contacted on 07903 708464 or info@abacusafterschoolclubs.co.uk
Hygiene	How can I help my child to stay safe when in school?	Talk to your child about the importance of the following 4 rules and ensure they understand them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • frequently wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and dry thoroughly

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clean their hands on arrival at school, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing • encourage them not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose • use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, kill it')
Cleaning	How will you ensure the school is kept clean to reduce spread of the virus?	Teaching spaces will be cleaned daily. All classes will have access to disinfectant – spray bottle and wipes. All toilet areas, banisters, handrails, door handles etc will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. Entry keypads etc will be routinely disinfected. Only staff will use the interactive whiteboard, visualiser, PC keyboard etc in the classroom and these will be wiped down at the end of each day.
Visitors	Will visitors be allowed on site?	Visitors will only be allowed onto site if deemed essential. They will be asked if they currently have or have had any symptoms in the last 14 days – they will be sent home to self-isolate if they have. They will use hand sanitiser at the office on arrival and be reminded about regular hand washing then shown where to do this. They will be expected to maintain social distancing at all times and only mix with children and adults from the appropriate class group.
Travel to school	How should we travel to school?	<p>Walk to school wherever possible, maintaining a 2m social distance between other households.</p> <p>If children are using scooters or bikes, parents/carers must ensure, and feel confident, that they will be able to enforce social distancing. Scooters or bikes will not be able to be left on the school site; parents/carers will need to take these back home after dropping children off.</p> <p>If using a car, parents/ carers must park a few roads away and walk the remaining distance to school again whilst maintaining a 2m social distance between other households. Cedar Avenue has restrictions for entry – no entry between 8.00-9.30am and 2.00-3.30pm each day.</p> <p>Parents/carers should avoid public transport where they can. Follow government guidance on wearing face coverings whilst on public transport and social distance 2m from other households where possible.</p>

<p>Adult or child with suspected symptoms</p>	<p>How will you deal with a situation where an adult or child appears to have symptoms of coronavirus?</p>	<p>If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home. They must self-isolate for at least 10 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 10 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms, unless they access testing which shows a negative result. If tested, parents/carers of pupils tested should forward evidence of the results to the office to agree a date to return to the school site. Where the child tests negative, they can return to school and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation. Where testing shows a positive result, the local health protection team will be contacted immediately (see below).</p>
<p>Confirmed case of coronavirus in school</p>	<p>How will you deal with a situation where an adult or child tests positive for coronavirus?</p>	<p>Schools must take swift action when they become aware that someone who has attended has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). Schools inform the local health protection team. This team will also contact schools directly if they become aware that someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) attended the school – as identified by NHS Test and Trace.</p> <p>A rapid risk assessment is carried out to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate. Schools must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 10 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. Close contact means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • direct close contacts - 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

Child attends another childcare or education setting	Can my child attend another childcare or education setting as well as school?	To minimise contact between groups of children and staff, children should attend just one setting wherever possible and parents/carers should be encouraged to minimise as far as possible the number of education and childcare settings their child attends.
Complaints	How do I make a complaint?	We always aim to do all we can to resolve any issues raised. Contact the class teacher initially, via the year group email, to try to resolve the issue. If it is not resolved, contact the Year Leader via the year group email. If still not resolved, contact a member of the senior leadership team via the school office. If you still need to take your complaint further, please refer to the Complaints policy on the school website.