

17th July 2020

Reception and Year One return to school in September Information

The purpose of this letter is to give you the information that we think you will need to support you in preparation for your child's welcome return to school in September. It is important that we all understand that, when the children come back in to school, their experience will be a little different than previous years. We would like to ask for your support in helping the children to become familiar with the changes that have had to be made and the new expectations for behaviour. Reception and Year One will be a bubble. This is because they use the same toilet facilities and outside areas and will allow staff to support the transition process.

Please follow this link for what parents and carers need to know about schools opening fully in the autumn term: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

How will drop off be organised?

In the mornings we will be running our original drop off system as normal where parents drive up to the front of school from the top of the lane and help their own children out of the car and they will walk into school on their own. A school member of staff will be outside to support with any problems. For new to Reception parents using the drop off system in this way may be quite daunting for the children so those families can park on Coughton Lane and surrounding roads (being mindful of not blocking residents' drives) and then walk up to the bottom school gate with your child/children. A school adult will support the children into school where necessary. Children may be dropped off between 8.30-9am.

How will pick up be organised?

In the afternoons, we will operate a staggered pick-up system to minimise contact between groups. A one way system will be implemented so that parents enter behind the shelter and along the marked path. Children will be collected from the playground and walked around the playground to exit through the main gate and out through the staff car park. We ask that just one member of the family comes to collect and that parents only collect their own children. Should you require someone different to collect your child you should contact the school in advance.

Reception and Year 1's pick-up will be 3:00 pm





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COUGHTON
C of E Primary School

Coughton Lane, Coughton, Warwickshire, B49 5HN

Email: admin3021@welearn365.com

Tel: 01789 762444

Executive Headteacher: **Adam Walsh**

Head of School: **Alex Kolb**

Can siblings be picked up at the same time?

Yes- siblings can be collected together at the earliest time slot. For example a sibling of a child in Reception or Year one can be collected at 3pm. A school adult will collect them from their classroom and accompany them to the netball "D" at the top of the playground from where you will be able to collect your child.

What if I need to pass a message on to the Reception or Year 1 teachers?

We are asking that all messages that need to be shared with us are sent in by email to admin3021@welearn365.com or to the teacher's Gmail accounts which you all have. Alternatively you can call the office who will pass on the message. We will get back to you as promptly as we can - either by phone or email. We appreciate that this goes against our normal way of operating but is important that for the time being we make this change. Over time we will use the school planners as our main form of communication but until Covid-19 sanctions are lifted we will not be using school planners as a form of communication.

Will social distancing be in place in Reception and Year 1?

No, the guidance regarding social distancing in schools is very different to public guidance. It is recognised that social distancing is not possible when dealing with young children and so the focus of our safety measures is on 'minimising contact'. Children will be encouraged to remain at a distance from their peers and staff but we will not be able to guarantee a 1m+ distance between children and do not expect our Year 1 children to be able to manage this. We will, however, be very vigilant on enforcing no physical contact between the children and between the children and adults. It is important for the children to understand that they will not be able to share hugs or play games that involve any form of sustained physical contact. If a child is upset or falls over, a member of staff will work in the usual way to comfort them. When any safe touch takes place, the member of staff and child will follow the correct hygiene rules and wash their hands thoroughly or use hand sanitiser.

What changes have been made to the classrooms?

The indoor space has been remodelled to enable us to separate the children as much as possible and we also plan to use the outdoor space wherever we can. Tables have been rearranged in the classrooms to ensure that as far as possible, children are sat forward facing the class teacher. Reception children will continue to access all of the provisions that are set out in the Early Years area.





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Resources can be used within each classroom, but not shared with another class. These will be cleaned down regularly. We have allocated each child their own set of regularly used resources (e.g. pencils, white boards, glue sticks and scissors) which will not be shared. The children will be supported to keep these tidy and store them away in their own named tray when not in use. On a practical level this means we will have to limit access to some resources because of the time and space needed to clean them.

What do the children need to wear?

From September, we expect children to come to school wearing their Coughton school uniform. Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal. Indoor PE kits must be brought into school.

What do the children need to bring with them to school?

It is still recommended that pupils limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day – only, water bottles, lunch boxes, hats, coats, planners and reading books. School bags are allowed, but these must fit into their lockers with their PE kits. Pupils can take books and other shared resources home, although unnecessary sharing should be avoided.

It is essential that water bottles come into school every day as we will not be able to give out spare cups. We are providing each child in Year 1 with limited stationery – a pencil case with pencil, ruler and glue stick where necessary to avoid the sharing of equipment.

What will learning be like in Reception and Year 1?

When the children come back, we will be working on a Curriculum that has social, emotional and mental health at its heart and will aid with the reconnecting of children and staff. This will be book focussed and the whole school will be working on activities from 'The boy, the horse, the fox and the mole' by Charlie McKesy and 'The Book of Hopes' by various authors. We will also need to spend time supporting children to learn new rules and boundaries that have been put in place. Once the children are settled into the new routine and structure, we will move back to providing a broad and balanced curriculum as before. Children in Reception will follow the Early Years foundation stage 'Early Learning Goals' and adults will be establishing routines and expectations within the classroom with a focus on building relationships.





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Will the children be bringing home reading books?

From September reading books and school planners will be reintroduced. These can be brought back and forth between school and home but use of planners will be limited.

Will it be compulsory to bring my child back and will I get fined, if I don't?

Now the circumstances have changed, it is vital for all children to return to school to minimise, as far as possible, the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development.

School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the Autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including: parents' duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil and they are of compulsory school age; schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence and the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.

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.

Please follow this link for current information on shielding: [**guidance on shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable.**](#)

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





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to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school (usually at their next planned clinical appointment).

Where children are not able to attend school as parents are following clinical and/or public health advice, absence will not be penalised. If this is the case, we will provide Home Learning.

What will happen at break times?

At break times the children will be able to play together in their year group bubble in designated areas of the school grounds. Break and lunchtimes will be staggered so that Reception and Year 1 children do not mix with other children in school.

Will School be providing school lunches?

Yes, our school kitchen have confirmed that they are able to provide school lunches. We have made the decision with the school kitchen to offer deli bag style lunches. The children will have a hot or a cold option for these. All Reception and Year 1 children are entitled to a free lunch as part of the Universal Free School Meal Provision.

How will you make sure that children do not get too close to each other when using the toilets?

Different year groups do not need to be allocated their own toilets, but toilets will be cleaned regularly and children will be encouraged to clean their hands thoroughly after using the toilet. Each child will be allocated their own named cone to place outside the toilet to demonstrate that it is in use. If there are two cones outside, then the next child will wait. This system has worked very well so far.

Will staff be able to help my child with toileting?

As much as possible, we will expect the children to manage their toileting independently. If children do need support with changing and intimate care, PPE (mask, goggles, aprons, gloves) have been provided for staff and our expectation is that staff will wear it to provide protection for themselves and the children.

Will you still be administering First Aid?

Yes, we will. If a child is hurt and requires first aid, staff will administer first aid with a few additional precautions. Gloves will be worn for all first aid and additional PPE is available for staff if they are required to have close physical contact with the children.





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What measures are in place for hand hygiene?

We will ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly, including when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks and before and after eating. Regular and thorough hand cleaning is going to be needed for the foreseeable future.

Hand-sanitising stations are set up around the main entrance points to the building and each class will have a supply of hand sanitiser for use where needed. Please note children will not need to bring in their own supplies of hand sanitiser.

Can children bring hand cream if their hands are sore from the extra hand washing?

Yes. This would need to be in its original container and clearly labelled with the child's name.

What about sun safety?

As we are hopefully going to still be able to enjoy some lovely sunny weather in the Autumn term, it is important that the children are adequately protected. All children should bring in a named cap or sun hat. Sun lotion should be applied before the children come to school. We recommend the use of a long lasting 8-hour formula to last during the day. If protection needs to be topped up, then children will need their own supplies of sun lotion (in a named bottle, please) and they will be supervised to apply it themselves. Staff will be unable to do this.

How and when will school be cleaned?

At the end of each day, school will be cleaned thoroughly following the Government's guidance. During lunchtime, classrooms and toilets will have surfaces wiped down and tissue bins emptied if they are full.

Will you be taking the children's temperature when they enter school?

No, we will not be taking the children's temperature as they come into school. We would however, take a child's temperature if they were displaying symptoms or feeling unwell.

It is imperative that anyone who has coronavirus symptoms, or who has someone in their household who does, do not come on to the school site.





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What will happen if a child develops coronavirus symptoms during the school day?

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 will be sent home and advised to follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)' which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 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 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms. If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age and needs of the child, with appropriate adult supervision if required.

What will happen if there is a confirmed case of Coronavirus in the class?

The health protection team will work with schools in this situation to guide them through the actions they need to take. Based on the advice from the health protection team, school will 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 means: 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 and travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person.

Kind regards

Mr Alex Kolb
Head of School





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