



Covid-19
Frequently Asked Questions



Potential Return to School – 1st June 2020

Will School be opening on 1st June?

We are still waiting for the final decision from the government.

We will follow the Government guidance on re-opening the school but have developed our plans for the unique set of circumstances for each of our schools. It is therefore likely that we will **not** be open for all groups of children on June 1st. Our plan details the order in which our groups of children will return to school when it is safe to do so. Your child's school will get in touch to confirm a return date for your child/ren.

Will all children be able to come back to school on 1st June?

We will let you know when your child can come back into school. To start with the Government has asked us to focus on Critical Workers, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 (in that order).

Do I have to send my child back to school?

No. It is your choice. There will not be any fines issued for non-attendance.

Will my child be with their teacher?

Maybe not. As children will be split into smaller 'bubbles'. Each bubble will have an adult, but it might not be your child's class teacher.

Will my child be with their friends?

Children will be in bubbles. Each bubble may be organised as critical worker bubbles, some may be year group bubbles. This will depend on the number of children coming back to school in each category and will be different in each school. This means that your child might not be with their friends. Unfortunately, you will not be able to pick who goes into your child's bubble - this will be decided by the school.

Will children be made to keep a 2m social distance?

We will be encouraging the children to socially distance as much as we can. We will avoid large groups and gatherings in our schools. The children will only be allowed to mix with the children in their bubble.

How will play time work?

Break times and lunchtimes will be staggered. Each bubble will be given a space for outside play. Children will not be able to mix with children from other bubbles. Routines will be established for safe use and access to the toilets etc. to maintain social distancing.

Will my child be able to wear their face mask?

No. The Government has advised that no PPE is needed for children or adults. Adults will only wear PPE when administering first aid and during intimate care. The Government advice is that primary children should not be wearing any PPE in school.

Will the school routine be back to normal?

No. The children will be in their bubble all day, every day. There will not be whole school assemblies, English and Maths sets, phonic groups etc. We will make the days as structured as possible but it will be a new 'normal'.

Will my child be able to eat lunch with their friend?

Lunches will be eaten in class or, if the weather is suitable, outside. Children will only be able to mix with children in their bubble. After the children have eaten, they will go outside to their allotted area to play, but again only with children in their bubble.

What will happen if my child gets upset?

The staff in each bubble will use their judgement about getting close to children when needed. Although there will not be as much contact as before, we would never leave a child in distress.

If I keep my child at home now, can I change my mind later on?

Yes. However, we might not be able to offer you a place at a later date if all of the classrooms and staff have been used up.

Will the children have to play in 2m squares on the playground?

No. Each bubble will be given a section of outside space to play in. They will be encouraged to keep as much distance as possible but will be able to play with the children in their bubble.

I have seen children on the news being 'disinfected' on entry, will this happen?

No. We will be encouraging good hygiene and regular hand washing throughout the day.

Will I be informed of any cases of COVID 19 in the school?

If there is a CONFIRMED case within your child's bubble you will be informed. You will then need to book a COVID test for your child and all other members of your household. Once you have a negative test result, your child will be allowed back in school. You will NOT be informed of cases in other bubbles or suspected cases.

Will the school be clean?

We have already increased our cleaning. This will continue every day over the coming weeks and during the day.

Will the timing of the school day remain the same?

No. It is likely that we will need to make some changes to ensure safety. In addition, the schools will be closing on Friday afternoons to allow for teachers planning time for all except the children of critical workers.

I am a key worker but my child is not in R, 1 or 6. Can they still come to school?

Yes. Key worker children are our main priority.

Can my child have a COVID test?

Yes. If your child, or anyone in your household displays symptoms of COVID 19, they will now be able to book in for a test using the Government website.

Is it totally safe for my child to return?

No. We cannot guarantee that your child will not become ill, or carry the infection home. However, we will follow all of the safety advice and make it as safe as possible.