

SOCIAL DISTANCING

This policy statement outlines the school's approach to social distancing measures in light of the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and how we will adhere to the guidance published by the government and health organisations.

While we are looking forward to welcoming more of our pupils back, we understand the concerns of many of our stakeholders, e.g. parents and staff members. That is why we have created this policy – to outline the steps the school will take to mitigate the risk of infection spreading and, ultimately, ensure the safety of our school community.

We will be consulting parents and staff members to support our decision-making and will be updating this policy in light of updates to government guidance.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK: This policy has due regard to relevant legislation and guidance, including, but not limited to, the following: Coronavirus Act 2020

DfE (2020) 'Coronavirus (COVID-19): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings'

DfE (2020) 'Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care settings, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE)

RISK ASSESSMENTS: Before reopening the school to more pupils, a risk assessment will be carried out to ensure sensible measures are put in place to protect staff members and pupils, including appropriate social distancing measures.

Staff members will be consulted as part of the creation process to ensure everyone's needs are understood and accounted for.

The risk assessment will address the following areas:

- Safety of the school premises
- Cleaning measures
- Infection control and the ability to implement protective measures, e.g. social distancing
- Supporting staff and pupil wellbeing
- Supporting pupils' learning
- Safeguarding
- Communication of plans and procedures

SOCIAL DISTANCING MEASURES

Class sizes

The school will reopen to all year groups.

Year Groups will form a Bubble.

Pupils will remain in their Bubble during the school day.

Staffing

CLASSES FOR 2020 – 2021

.Year Group	2020-2021 Teacher		Class Moving Up	2020-2021 Teacher	Class Moving Up
Reception	Miss Kennedy			Mrs Kelly/Mrs McGain/Mr Jones	
Year 1	Mrs. Baker & Miss Cuddy		Miss Kennedy	Miss Gilbert	Mrs Kelly/Mrs McGain
Year 2	Mr Bland		Mrs Baker/Mrs Cuddy	Mrs. Richards	Miss Gilbert
Year 3	Mrs Melia		Mrs Richards	Mrs Mitchell & Mr Hanna	Mr Bland
Year 4	Mr. Roose		Mrs Mitchell & Mr Hanna	Mrs Brown	Mrs Melia
Year 5	Miss Stockton		Mrs Brown	Mrs Walsh	Mr Roose
Year 6	Mr Lewis		Miss Stockton	Mr Maher	Mrs Walsh

In the event there is a shortage of teachers, a TA can lead the class under the direction of a teacher.

Where possible, social distancing measures will be adhered to, including the two-metre rule, and desks will be spaced as far apart as possible to help this.

The headteacher will decide whether it is viable to hold lessons or classroom activities outdoors to help with adherence to social distancing measures.

THE SCHOOL DAY: The Senior Leadership Team will review the school timetable and make amendments to reduce movement around the school.

Staff, and parents will be sent a copy of the finalised timetable and will be informed of any changes to this timetable.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP: Pupil start and finish times will be staggered as follows to maintain social distancing and minimise mixing:

Pick up and drop off points are communicated to parents in advance of the measures being put in place.

Clear signage is displayed highlighting where parents should drop off and pick up their children.

DROP OFF: 8.30am – 8.55am

Parents and children will enter the school grounds via the vehicle gates

Parents will exit via the pedestrian gate

Parents are asked to respect social distancing guidance

8.30 – 8.55: Y4/Y5/Y6: BREAKFAST CLUB DOOR

8.30– 8.55: Y2: Y2 FIRE DOORS

8.30 – 8.55: Y1/Y3: CHILDREN'S ENTRANCE

8.45: Reception: Reception Gate and Reading Room

PICK UP: 3.00pm – 3.20pm

3.00: Reception: Reading Room & Reception Gate

3.00: Y1: BREAKFAST CLUB DOOR

3.00: Y2: CLASSROOM FIRE DOORS

3.10: Y3: CHILDREN'S ENTRANCE

3.10: Y4: BREAKFAST CLUB DOOR

3.20: Y5: CHILDREN'S ENTRANCE

3.20: Y6: BREAKFAST CLUB DOOR

ASSEMBLIES: Assemblies will not take place in large groups. Classroom teachers will hold assemblies with the pupils in their group.

BREAK AND LUNCHTIMES: Bubbles will remain together for breaktimes and lunchtimes.

Different areas of the school will be allocated for Year Group Bubbles to take their break and lunchtimes.

Playtimes will be staggered to ensure 'Bubbles' do not mix.

Lunch times will be staggered to ensure 'Bubbles' do not mix.

Dining room to be laid out so that 'bubbles' are separated whilst eating.

Dining room supervisors, cleaners and serving staff will maintain 2m social distancing wherever possible.

Reception children will have lunch in class

WEEK 1

Y1/Y2/Y3 Bubbles will have their lunches in the Dining Room

Y4/Y5/Y6 Bubbles will have their lunches in class and remain in their seats

WEEK 2

Y1/Y2/Y3 will have their lunches in class and remain in their seats.

Y4/Y5/Y6 will have their lunches in the Dining Room

STAFFROOM: The staffroom will be moved to include 5 upstairs rooms. The two-metre social distancing will be enforced in the staffroom.

PE LESSONS: Pupils will be required to follow social distancing guidelines in PE and sports activities. Class sizes will be limited to make adherence to the guidelines easier during team sports and activities. Lessons will be held outdoors whenever possible.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS: No extra-curricular clubs will be scheduled for the Autumn1 half term. This policy will be reviewed at end of Autumn1 half term.

BEHAVIOUR: The school's Behaviour Policy has been amended to include an annex outlining how social distancing will work when implementing the measures in the policy. We understand that following some of the social distancing principles will be extremely challenging, so staff and pupils will not face any stringent action if they are unable to follow them. If a staff member is unable to follow the principles, they should speak to their line manager. If a pupil is unable to follow any social distancing measures, the Safeguarding Team will discuss whether it would be more appropriate for the pupil to remain at home.

SUPPORTING PUPILS: The SENCO will review EHC plans and risk assessments to determine whether it is safe for pupils with SEND to return to school, if they have not already been attending. The SENCO will consider the capacity for the pupil to understand and follow social distancing measures that have been put in place as part of their decision to determine whether a pupil with SEND should return to school. When planning for each stage of reintegration, the implications for the wellbeing of pupils, staff and families will always be considered. One of the school's key priorities in relation to wellbeing is ensuring that the school community feels safe as we reopen more widely. The headteacher will liaise with the LA to discuss what wider support services are available and to secure additional support and early help, where possible.

INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES: We know that implementing social distancing measures in a school setting is extremely challenging.

Therefore, we will also implement robust infection control measures to help ensure the safety of our school community. Infection control measures are implemented in line with the Infection Control Policy, which contains an annex on coronavirus measures. All staff members will be briefed on what they can do to mitigate the risk of infection, and they will be regularly reminded of their responsibilities relating to control measures.

The school will communicate regularly with parents to outline the infection control measures in place and to explain parents' responsibilities in mitigating the risk of infection spreading. This is done to reassure parents and further mitigate the risk of infection spreading.

The following measures will be implemented across the school:

- Minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend the school for 7 or 14 days.
- Cleaning hands frequently – wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered
- Ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- Cleaning frequently touched surfaces using standard products, such as detergents and bleach
- Minimising contact and mixing of pupils and staff by altering, as much as possible, the environment (such as classroom layout) and timetables (such as staggered breaktimes)
- Limiting the number of shared resources that are taken home by staff and pupils
- Discouraging pupils from touching their faces or putting objects in their mouths
- Teaching pupils to wash their hands frequently, particularly after using large moveable toys and bikes

The school will review guidance from the government regularly, and update this policy and other documents where necessary.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE): Reference to PPE in this section means: Fluid-resistant surgical face masks, Disposable gloves, Disposable plastic aprons, Eye protection, e.g. face visor or goggles. The government has advised that the majority of school staff do not need to wear PPE beyond what they normally would for their work, even if they are not always able to maintain a distance of two metres from others. In accordance with government guidance, PPE will be provided to staff in the following circumstances:

- Where staff are caring for pupils whose intimate care needs already require the use of PPE
- Where a pupil becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus at school and requires direct personal care until they can go home, a fluid-resistant surgical mask should be worn by the staff member caring for the pupil. If contact with the pupils is necessary, the staff member should wear disposable gloves, a disposable apron, and a fluid-resistant surgical mask. Where there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, e.g. from coughing, eye protection should be worn.

When using face masks, staff will ensure the masks:

- Cover both the nose and mouth.
- Do not dangle around the neck.
- Are not touched once put on, except when carefully removed before disposal.
- Are changed once they become moist or damaged.

- Are only worn once and then discarded.

When using PPE, staff members will follow [PHE's guidelines](#) on putting on and taking off equipment. PHE's infographics will be displayed in areas of the school where PPE is likely to be used.

Where the wearer of PPE does not have coronavirus symptoms, the equipment will be placed in a refuse bag and be disposed of as normal domestic waste.

PPE that has been worn by, or near, someone with coronavirus symptoms will be disposed of by:

- Putting it in a plastic rubbish bag and tying it when full.
- Placing the rubbish bag in a second rubbish bag and tying it.
- Putting it in a suitable container and secure place marked for storage for 72 hours.
- Waste will be stored safely and securely kept away from pupils. Waste will not be put in communal waste areas until it has been stored for at least 72 hours. This waste does not require a dedicated clinical waste collection.

In line with government guidance, pupils and staff will be asked to remove homemade non-disposable face coverings when they arrive at school. The wearer will be asked to bring a plastic bag to school to put the face covering into in order to take it home – the wearer must clean their hands once they have removed the face covering. If a staff member or pupil (or their parent) does not want to remove their face covering while at school, they should speak to the headteacher.

We understand that without PPE it is very challenging to ensure staff can carry out their roles safely. The government has confirmed that its stance on PPE in schools is constantly developing – we will update this section as required. The safety of our staff is paramount, so additional risk assessments will be conducted to determine whether PPE is required for other tasks and activities, and we will do our utmost to ensure staff are provided with the PPE they need.

COMMUNICATION: All social distancing measures will be communicated to all relevant stakeholders, including pupils, parents, staff, visitors, suppliers and contractors. Staff will be informed of all relevant plans, including safety measures, timetable changes and staggered arrival and departure times, and will have opportunities to discuss training on the new measures. Staff will be engaged regularly to get their feedback on the arrangements that are in place. Visual aids will be placed around the school to remind our community of the measures that we have put in place.

MONITORING AND REVIEW: This policy will be reviewed at least weekly and after the release of additional government guidance.

All updates made to this policy will be communicated to all staff members and parents by the headteacher.