

Who can come back to school?

From September 2020, the Government is asking all families to send their child back to school, unless the child has medical advice to the contrary.

Do we have to come back yet?

Yes. Attendance at school will return to being compulsory for all children.

Is it safe to come back?

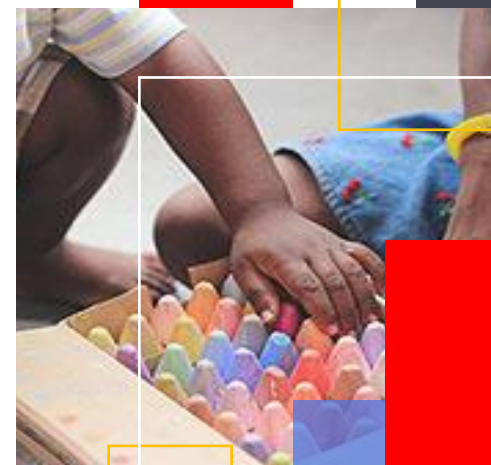
Yes. Although nothing at this time is 'risk free', our school has very strict measures in place to protect the community.

There are two ways to lower risks considerably. Firstly, by reducing the number of people that you mix with on a daily basis. Each class is a 'bubble', and they will not mix with children or adults from other 'bubbles'. We will not have assemblies or joint lunchtimes until further notice. We will not be running Breakfast Club or Afterschool club so that we can maintain this level of security.

Secondly, hygiene standards need to be really high. All staff and children will be washing their hands frequently throughout the day, and using hand gel where needed. Each classroom is cleaned thoroughly each day, and deep cleaned once a week. Toilets are cleaned throughout the day, as are door handles and touchplates. The school has literally never been cleaner!

BACK TO SCHOOL

September 2020



Information for parents of
children in the Pod



Where do I drop off and pick up my child?

Parents will be asked to queue at 2-metre distances along the path on Market road. The path has yellow markers on it to show the required distances.

When your child's class is admitted, you will walk your child along a pre-marked pathway and down the steps, past year 1 to the entrance of the Pod, where the staff will be waiting inside. On the first day the teachers will come and lead you down.

To leave, go back up the slope and out via the KS1 pedestrian gate.

At the allotted home time, your child's teacher will bring the children to the main gate. Parents will be asked to queue and collect children one-by-one maintaining 2-metre distances.

Children are asked to only bring essentials to school, such as PE kit, reading book & water bottle.

Will the times of the school day change?

Yes, to try to keep groups of children and parents apart the start and end times will be staggered.

Start of the day:

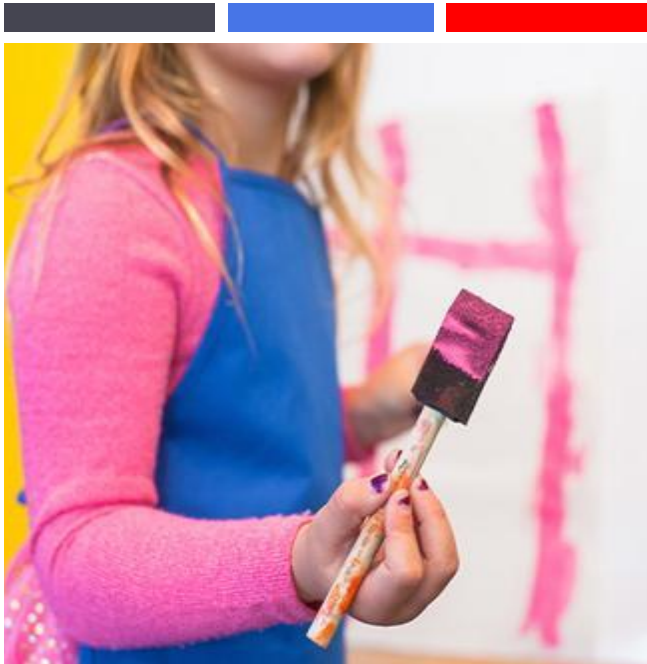
Gates will be opened to the Pod class at 9.30 for 10 minutes. If you are later than 9.40 you will have to ring the buzzer to be let in, as the gate will be closed.

End of the Day:

The Pod class will finish at 3.30 pm

The teacher will bring the class to the main gate and you will be asked to come forward to collect them

It is important that you are on time and once your child is with you, leave the area promptly.



Can I use Afterschool Club?

At the time of writing we will not be able to offer Afterschool club to anyone. This is because in our risk assessment, we have agreed that mixing the class bubbles is too great a risk.

We will review this in the Autumn and continue to look for alternate solutions.

Can I use Breakfast Club?

We cannot offer Breakfast club for the same reasons we cannot offer Afterschool Club.

At the moment **we are unable to staff the Pod for Early bird club.** The ratio of adults to children would mean the cost would be prohibitively expensive. We apologise for this situation.



What if I have two children and different drop off and pick up times?

We are unable to offer any assistance to families for this situation at this time.

We need to operate a staggered start and finish in order to reduce the risk of community infection transmission.

We thank parents for their understanding.

Do we have to wear uniform?

Yes. Full school uniform will be expected from September.

We have changed our uniform policy to include the wearing of a **coloured hat**. This is in order to help keep the bubbles apart during the day, and you will find it helpful at home time to know when to approach the gate to collect your child. Hats will need to be purchased through ParentPay, and will cost £2 (which is how much we pay for them).

Your child must come to school wearing the hat which will be issued to them on the first day.

If your child arrives without a hat, you will be asked to go home and bring it in immediately.

It is a good idea to keep the hat in the car, or hang it on the door handle!



Will it be normal lessons?

Mostly, yes. There will be a few changes. PE will not be taught indoors at first, therefore we **ask that your child has a tracksuit (preferably black) as their PE kit** so as they are warm when outside, and preferably trainers instead of plimsolls.

We will not be having assembly in the hall as usual, it will be done via webcam with children in their classrooms.

What happens at lunchtime?

During this period, we will only be offering packed lunches, or a 'pasta pot'. These can be provided by the school kitchen as part of the infant free school meals, or you may provide your own.

The kitchen staff will deliver the packed lunches to your child's classroom, where they will eat supervised by a mid-day supervisor.

They will then be taken as a class out to a designated zone for a playtime.

Lunchtimes will be about 40 minutes, rather than an hour. This is to maximize learning time, whilst we have the staggered start and end to the day.



What happens if someone in the school tests positive for Covid-19?

With all Covid-19 matters, we are currently asked to call Public Health England directly and seek advice.

Due to all the measures we have put in place to keep the classes from mixing, it is unlikely that the school will be closed for a single case.

Therefore, you should not need to be concerned if the case is in a separate bubble, as they won't have had any contact with each other.

What happens if my child is ill?

If your child (or anyone in your household) has these symptoms, everyone in the household should stay home for 14 days, or until the person gets a negative test result.

- A continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A loss or change in your sense of smell

However mild these symptoms are, you need to book a test through the NHS website immediately. Do not wait as you can't be tested after a few days.

You must let us know ASAP.

If a child falls ill in school, or we suspect that a child is ill, a member of staff will wear a mask, visor, gloves and an apron to take your child to a medical bay. You will be called and asked to collect your child ASAP



What happens if someone in my child's class is ill?

If someone is ill with Covid-19 symptoms, we will call Public Health England as we are currently advised to do so. The person who is ill will be told to get a test for Covid-19.

If the test is positive, it is likely that all the people in that class will be asked to isolate at home for 14 days and therefore the 'bubble' would be closed.

Guidance for schools on these matters comes directly from Public Health England and is updated frequently.



Will parents be asked to 'social distance'

Yes. It is really important for the health of the community that parents from different households stay socially distant. This is why there is a staggered start and end of the day, and why there are markings up the side of Market Road.

There are also one-way systems in place for parents who need to bring children to the classroom doors.

It is important that once you have dropped off or collected your child, that you leave the area swiftly.

Will my child be asked to 'social distance'?

The main form of social distancing in Primary schools is keeping 'bubbles' of children apart. We cannot expect young children to manage to be socially distant from their classmates, and we wouldn't have the room in the classrooms if we did!

There will be some restrictions:

- Children will be encouraged to not get too close to their teachers. There will be no sitting on laps, or hugging.
- Children will be spread out where it is possible, for example when eating lunch or when the teacher is reading a story to the whole class, or the children are completing some work.
- Children will be encouraged to play side by side rather than face-to-face as this reduces the risks.
- Children will be told not to approach vulnerable staff, or staff from other bubbles

Can I talk to the teacher?

No. Staff will not get close to parents at any time. If you want to talk to the teacher, you may do so via the phone or leave a telephone message with the office to be passed on. You may also email staff but be aware that they may not pick it up immediately.

You will not be able to visit the office personally unless it is to drop something off.

Won't all the children be mixing outside school anyway?

We hope not. Currently Government restrictions state that although families from different households can meet up, they should maintain social distancing principles, of at least 2 metres apart, or 1 metre plus a mask or other form of protection.

Whilst this may change before September, we hope that all members of the community follow the rules for everyone's safety.

