



Through God's love, we learn, aspire and achieve; we flourish.

Christ Church CE Primary School

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Let us love one another,
because love comes from
God and knows God.
1 John 4:7

Your heart will become
wise. Your mind will delight
in knowledge.
Proverbs 2:10

I have come so that they
may have life and have it to
the full.
John 10:10

19th May 2020

Dear YR Parents

I hope that you are all keeping well during this unusual time. As promised, I am sending you this letter to provide you with the details and information you need for your child's possible return to school from Monday 1st June.

As you will know, the Government has published its recovery strategy which included DfE guidance on plans to re-open schools in a **phased** way from 1st June 2020.

It has suggested a *phased* return to early year's settings, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 in smaller class sizes. It has produced guidance which details the rationale for the year groups which have been prioritised, the latest science and how to manage the risk and rate of transmission of COVID19.

Schools will only begin to re-open if the five key tests set by government justify the changes at the time.

Protective measures that need to be implemented in order to manage the phased opening, have also been provided. The guidance states that every setting should:

- Carry out a risk assessment before opening
- Undertake increased cleaning
- Reduce 'pinch points' (such as parents dropping children off at the start and end of day)
- Utilise outdoor space.
- Implement smaller group and class sizes - the basic principle is that classes should be halved
- Testing will be available for pupils and their families

We have considered the information provided and have put together a plan to ensure that the safety guidelines are fully in place should confirmation be given for us to begin to re-open to children. We can only reopen to children if we are satisfied that it is safe to do so and with the support of all teachers.

We know that the safety of your children is paramount and we have put together questions that we are sure you will want to know the answers to. We are available should you need more clarification or detail. please phone the school office. The school day will be nothing like the usual experience, nor will it be what the children are expecting. We will aim to make it as enjoyable as we can and ensure that children have the opportunity to participate in small group activities to extend their learning.

The Reception children will be separated into two groups of 15 maximum and will be taught by either the class teacher or a teaching assistant under the supervision of the class teacher. One class will be taught in the current Reception class and one class will be taught in the current Nursery class. Each class will have a different start and finish time and entrance and exits. We have compiled a list of questions we think you will find useful to explain how we are planning to ensure your child's return is as safe as it can be.

Essential Questions

How have you ensured effective infection protection and control?

- Where possible, we will minimize contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or someone in their household who does, does not attend school. **We ask all parents to send your child only if you are confident that s/he is well.**
- Children will be encouraged to wash their hands more often than usual. There will be wash stations available in each classroom with soap and paper towels. Children will wash their hands on arrival and regularly during the school day.
- Children will be encouraged to use good respiratory hygiene- "catch it, bin it, kill it". Each classroom will have a tissue bin, in addition to the normal bin which will be regularly emptied through the day.
- Signs will be displayed indicating safe practice.
- All chairs and tables will be named for individuals.
- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned regularly.
- Children's equipment will be cleaned at the end of each session. All unnecessary equipment and toys etc. will be removed in order to ensure effective cleaning.
- Regular contract cleaning will take place at the end of each day and a deep clean on a Friday.
- We will minimize contact between children and staff as much as possible.

Will I be fined if my child doesn't attend?

No. Attendance data is not being used in this way during this summer term.

Will children need to wear PPE?

This is not recommended for children. In fact we have been told that children are **not** to wear face masks in school. Staff will wear protection when dealing with children requiring close, direct care.

Will my child be in a class of 30?

No. The maximum group size is 15. Your child will be in the same group of children at all times and there will be no opportunities for the groups to meet. The classes will be referred to as **bubbles** as this is how they will be treated whilst in school. The children will be in either RED BUBBLE or BLUE BUBBLE class! The children will remain in their bubble throughout the day. Start and finish times for bubbles will be staggered. Break times will be staggered. Children will enter and leave the building through different entrances. The Bubble will be taught by a teacher or Teaching Assistant, under the direction of the teacher.

The children will have an allocated desk/chair in the classroom and will not be encouraged to share spaces.

Different toilets are available for each group of 15 children (Bubble) and, to ensure there is no overcrowding, children will use them one at a time.

For the first week we will be working a part time timetable and will expect children to attend on MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY MORNINGS ONLY. They will not require lunch during this first week.

Blue bubble children will start on Monday 1st and Red Bubble children will start on Tuesday 2nd.

Is there a protocol for drop off and pick up times?

Yes. Where possible please walk or cycle to school. Only one parent can accompany children to school. There are allocated drop off and pick up points for each group of children and it is important that children arrive and are collected promptly. The Blue Bubble children will be in the Reception class and will enter school via the normal entrance. The Red Bubble children will be in the Nursery classroom and will enter school via the side gate next to the nursery entrance, accessing via the field.

Parents must not gather at our entrance gates or enter the building (unless they have a pre-arranged appointment). The office will be closed to visitors, parents can make contact via telephone or email.

If you feel that your child may be distressed coming into school, it may not be the appropriate time for them to return. Please contact Mrs Print to discuss this.

Parents will not be permitted to come into the classroom with children.

Will the classes be cleaned regularly?

Each class room will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of the day in preparation for the morning. Bins for tissues will be emptied regularly. **There will be no school on Fridays** so that the classroom can be deep cleaned in preparation for Monday.

Will there be shared areas in use?

No shared areas will be in use. The doors between Nursery and Reception will be closed at all times. The outside area will be divided into two and children will only be able to access their specific area.

The children will stay in their bubble at all times and will not enter the school building unless this is prearranged by the teacher. The hall will remain unoccupied. Children will have worship in their own classroom. During the second week onwards when the children stay for lunch, this will be eaten outside in their own area, when weather permits.

How do I prepare my child to come to school?

It is very difficult for young children to understand social distancing. However, please talk to your child before they arrive about keeping a safe distance from one another. This includes when they meet each other, no hugging, running up close to one another etc. This is going to be very difficult for them to do, but they will be reminded at all times the importance of this for theirs and others safety. We understand that young children will find this almost impossible and no child will be chastised for forgetting the rule.

What will my child need to bring?

We will be encouraging the bubbles to do lots of outside play and activities, so please make sure they are wearing appropriate clothing to be outdoors.

Will my child need a school lunch?

After the first week, your child will be given a school packed lunch (hot food will not be provided). The children will also receive fruit at snack time, as usual.

Will my child need to wear school uniform?

Yes. If your child has grown out of uniform, please speak to a member of staff to discuss this. The children can wear trainers if they wish.

We are very fortunate to have fantastic outdoor spaces and wherever possible we will be using the outdoors to learn. Please ensure that your child has a coat/jacket if necessary, and sun cream/sun cap if the weather is hot.

What happens if my child wants to be in a different group?

Unfortunately there is no flexibility with groupings as the priority is safety.

What if my child is anxious and will find leaving me difficult?

Unfortunately, in these circumstances, the staff will be unable to physically take your child from you. This is a consideration for you when deciding whether you send your child. The children will need to be able to walk in and settle down independently. Parents will not be able to come into the classroom. Please phone to discuss this, should you need to.

What happens if a child becomes unwell whilst at school?

Children who are unwell will be moved to a room whilst they are waiting to be collected. They will be advised to self-isolate for 7 days. If they develop symptoms of COVID19, household members should isolate for 14 days. There will be access to testing for all children and families if symptoms are displayed, via 111.

If there is a confirmed case of coronavirus the class group will be advised to self-isolate for 14 days.

What if my child is not going to be in school as expected?

For those children who are attending school, please email the office by 9am if your child is unable to come in. Usual safeguarding procedures will apply and we will be phoning parents to check children are safe if they do not arrive at school, if expected.

If I don't accept the place, will I be able to send my child at a later date

This does prove to be more complex as the children will be in established bubbles. We suggest you contact the school to discuss this.

If I don't send my child to school will there still be Home learning provided?

Unfortunately the staff cannot be expected to teach and plan for two classes- home and school. Therefore there will be no daily personalised learning for home but they will signpost parents to pre-prepared lessons at the beginning of each week. Any queries regarding home learning during this time should be addressed in the usual way.

What days will my child attend school?

Your child will attend 4 days a week, with Friday closed for cleaning and staff planning.

What if my child is late?

Please ensure your child is on time every day as the gates will be locked and they will be **unable** to join the class if not here on time. There are other classes with different start times and it is important to ensure that groups remain separate at all times.

Please ensure you collect your child on time and do not arrive early as there is nowhere for parents to wait.

When bringing and collecting your child, please observe all social distancing rules.

Is it compulsory for my child to attend school?

Attending school is usually compulsory, however during this time the government wording has been changed to “recommended”. At this time this is a choice for you as parents to make depending on personal circumstances. You decide whether you feel it is safe for your child to be in school and individual circumstances will dictate whether you send or do not send your child. My understanding is that attendance figures will not be collected and so parents will not be fined should you decide to keep your child at home.

We will make the environment as safe as we can but it is impossible for us to guarantee that your child will not be exposed to the virus. We cannot ensure that all children socially distance, especially the younger children, but we have been advised by the government and their scientists that should all the safety procedures be in place the risk to children is lower.

This is a very unique time and whilst we will be very pleased to see your children back in school, we are also mindful that some of you will prefer to keep your children at home.

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS ONLY

First week 1-4th June

Blue Bubble group to start on Monday 1st and Red Bubble group to start on Tuesday 2nd.

	Class	Start Time	Finish Time	Entrance/exit point
Blue Bubble 1-06-20	Reception classroom	9-30am	12pm	Through main gate
Red Bubble 2-06-20	Nursery classroom	9.15am	11.45pm	Through field gate next to the nursery entrance

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS ONLY

Second week onward 8th June

	Class	Start Time	Finish Time	Entrance/exit point
Blue Bubble	Reception Classroom	9.30am	2.30pm	Through main gate
Red Bubble	Nursery classroom	9.15am	2.15pm	Through field gate next to nursery entrance

Your child will be in the Red/Blue Bubble classroom.

As the sessions become more established, it may be possible that we alter the timings a little but this will be managed as the situation develops and with the safety of children and staff at the forefront of all decision making.

With best wishes

Mrs Print
Head Teacher

