



Christchurch Infant School

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Headteacher: Mr D Baxter



16.7.20

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of this unprecedented school year, it is important to reflect on the many successes and achievements that have been made. It has been really pleasing to see how hard the children have worked in all year groups and how determined they have all been to achieve as highly as possible.

I would like to say a special well done to all of the children in Early Years, who have now completed their first year of formal education, albeit usual, and have been a real credit to the school and their parents. They settled in brilliantly and were quickly able to follow the routines of the school really well, with a positive attitude and behaviour.

May I also take the opportunity to thank all parents for their continued support of the school. We always seek to improve and develop as a school – your feedback is always very important to us.



I hope everyone connected with the school has a lovely summer holiday with their families, be that abroad or staying at home. We say a great big thank you to all members of the school community for their commitment and dedication to making the school a great place. This includes staff, governors, PTFA, volunteers and of course yourselves – the families and children of our school. I look forward to seeing everyone return to school in September, apart from the Year 2s of course who are heading off to their new schools. May I wish each of them all the best for their future and thank them for everything they have given to the school over their time with us.



Having spoken to so many families over this uncertain and challenging time, the Recovery Curriculum at Christchurch Infant school has been developed focusing on the needs and experiences of the children and families in school, following the school closures and COVID-19 pandemic.

In line with the Department for Education's instruction, it is our plan that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term – Monday 7th September 2020.

Our planning is underpinned by the Department for Education's advice on effective infection protection and control which states the following:

"We are asking schools to prepare for all pupils to return full-time from the start of the autumn term, including those in school-based nurseries. Schools should not put in place rotas.

Schools must comply with health and safety law, which requires them to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. Schools should thoroughly review their health and safety risk assessments and draw up plans for the autumn term that address the risks identified using the system of controls set out below. These are an adapted form of the system of protective measures that will be familiar from the summer term. Essential measures include:

1. a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
2. robust hand and respiratory hygiene
3. enhanced cleaning arrangements
4. active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
5. formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

How contacts are reduced will depend on the school's circumstances and will (as much as possible) include:

- grouping children together
- avoiding contact between groups
- arranging classrooms with forward facing desks
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible"

Many of the protocols and procedures that were implemented during the summer term will remain the same in the autumn term with the expectation that they will further embed so that children who did not attend in the summer term will themselves adopt the measures also.

School Organisation

All classes will be taught in 'bubbles' of 30 for the first 2 weeks with their own lunch and playtimes as we have been doing so already. This will be reviewed within that time period and then opened up to the whole year group depending on Public Health England and Department for Education advice.

We will operate a staggered start and finish - this is to reduce contact across groups to control social distancing expectations.

EYFS timings starting on September

Class	Gate for parents to use	Start time	Finish Time
Dolphins	Addiscombe Road – gate next to front entrance	8:30 – 8:40am	2:40pm
Seahorses	Clarendon Road gate	8:40 – 8:50am	2:50pm
Turtles	Addiscombe Road – gate next to front entrance	8:50 – 9:00am	3:00pm
Starfish	Clarendon Road gate	9:00 – 9:10am	3:10pm

Year 1

Access to the school via the gate in the Junior School Car Park on **Clarendon Road**.

Class	Start time	Finish Time
Foxes	8:30 – 8:40	2:40pm
Squirrels	8:40 – 8:50	2:50pm
Hedgehogs	8:50 – 9:00	3:00pm
Rabbits	9:00 – 9:10	3:10pm

Year 2

Access to the school via the gate near Year 2 on **Portfield Road**

Class	Start time	Finish Time
Kingfishers	8:30 – 8:40	2:40pm
Nightingales	8:40 – 8:50	2:50pm
Woodpeckers	8:50 – 9:00	3:00pm
Kestrels	9:00 – 9:10	3:10pm

Staggering entrance/collection will ensure that the adults and children on site can distance appropriately and it will reduce the risk of children coming in to contact with children from other bubbles. This will be difficult for some families of multiple children.

Parents are to be encouraged to walk to school where possible and only one parent will be permitted on the school grounds. If children cycle or scooter to school, then they are to use the storage area to lock their bike/scooter securely.

Parents mustn't congregate at the 'drop-off' point, they must instead arrive on time and then depart.

Parents must arrive on time for entry to school, they must not arrive early or late. In the instance that parents have children in more than one year group, parents may wait with their children, strictly following social distancing from other parents and children. Parents will be asked to drop off and leave, rather than remain on school grounds. If you have a child in EYFS, it would be best for you to drop them off first.

Given that the external school gates will be open at 2.40pm, no children will be allowed outside at that point and must have returned to their classrooms.

Again, parents must not arrive early or late. They must collect their children on time so that teachers can release children safely. The playground will be open to parents to briefly wait in before their children are released to them. Whilst parents are waiting, social distancing must be adhered to.

Teachers will not be available to speak to unless teachers initiate the contact. Teachers must commit their time to ensuring that all children safely leave their care. Parents can contact teachers through Class Email for Year 1 and 2 and Tapestry for EYFS. If you have queries about the day, please contact us to make a phone appointment.

Measures within the classroom

Classrooms will be adapted to support distancing where possible. Where tables are used, children will sit side-by-side and in groups. Classrooms will be prepared as such ready for September.

Where circumstances allow, adults are to try to distance from children and one another.

Children with additional needs will receive as much support as normal but adults will be extra vigilant and mindful of their face-to-face time with the children and reduce this where possible.

Within the government guidance, it recognises that younger children will not be able to maintain social distancing, and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group. This has implications for NHS Test and Trace should there be the need to contact parents of children as a result of a positive case. The guidance also advises that siblings may be in different groups and encourages schools to use measures as best they can, as it will still reduce the network of possible direct transmission.

All teachers and other staff will operate across different classes and year groups in order to facilitate the delivery of the curriculum.

Adults and children are to wash their hands/use hand sanitiser on the following occasions:

- Entry to school
- Before/after break times
- Before lunch
- When they change rooms
- Before leaving school
- Anytime that they visit the toilet or cough/sneeze in to their hands.

Additional hand sanitiser pumps have been purchased and are stationed in each classroom as well as appropriate points in school.

Where children are struggling to wash independently they may receive support assuming the adult supporting is also washing their hands.

Measures elsewhere

There will be no whole-school events where children and adults are required to congregate. Assemblies will be limited to class assemblies. Where possible, efforts will be made to have virtual assemblies through digital means. Children will not sing during assembly.

The hall will continue to be the staffroom; however strict social distancing will continue to be in place.

Children will be allowed to go to the toilet as they would do in a normal school day, however we will be very aware of how many other children are also using the toilet and ensure that children wash their hands afterwards. Toilets are cleaned regularly.

Curriculum

All classes will begin the year with a PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) focus project, which will focus on well being, feeling and experiences and building relationships and positive learning behaviours. It will be a chance to re-develop the class community. Children will feel a sense of belonging and calm after a challenging few months and will make steps towards secure attachments with children and staff, once again, in school. Children will be given the opportunity to celebrate the time spent learning at home with family and share their experiences. Time in class will reflect the opportunities they have had at home, as well as taking steps towards regaining the structure and familiarity of routines and expectations in school.

Children will be encouraged, through the PSHE lessons, to communicate in a range of ways about their experiences over the last few months. They will be encouraged to celebrate their experiences and share and discuss their anxieties and frustrations. Communication with young children is central to their participation in school and their overall well-being.

It is important that we still provide a broad and balanced curriculum and build on the children's individual starting points. Therefore, the first couple of weeks will also be an opportunity to assess the children in their core skills, focusing on Reading, Writing and Mathematics. This will be through observations of the children, tasks and conversations and will ensure that all children have the opportunity to celebrate the hard work they have done over lockdown and teachers are aware of the priorities for learning.

The teaching of Personal, Social and Health Education will be taught as the first topic in all classes and project overviews can be found on the year group starter pages of the school website. This is to ensure that the children's well-being is catered for after potentially many weeks away from the school setting. The teaching of phonics and key number skills will also be revised and taught from the outset to ensure that children get a good start to the 2020-2021 academic year. Further details on the streamed teaching of phonics will be shared within September.

Marking

Work will be marked when children are not present rather than alongside so that social distancing can continue to be maintained.

Uniform

Children will be expected to wear clean school uniform and PE kits to be brought into school as usual.

Parent Helpers and Volunteers

We are not able to accept any parent volunteers until further notice.

Resources

In terms of classroom resources, for regularly used stationery, children will all have their own individual set that is not to be shared. Other classroom resources like books and games can be used within the bubble but should be cleaned following use.

Shared resources, between bubbles, like art/science equipment will be meticulously cleaned between use or rotated to allow 72 hours between use to ensure they are safe. This includes use of Ipad and computers.

Games that encourage distancing and little touch need to be made available to the children. However, outdoor equipment will not be used unless we are able to ensure that it is appropriately cleaned between groups of children using it, and that multiple groups do not use it simultaneously. Therefore, each group will gather resources from their classrooms or the PE cupboard so that they have dedicated outdoor equipment that is taken out and used exclusively by them. This is gathered back in at the end of their break/ lunch time and cleaned.

Pupils should not bring anything additional from home. There can be no 'show and tell'. However, children can now take books home and return them as normal. Books are to be returned as normal but taken out of circulation for 72 hours before being returned to the library.

Teachers can now take books home (and return them freely) to assess or use to support planning etc. This is also true of library books for children.

Children will be allowed to use a greater range of cleanable resources and equipment and the school cleaners will be cleaning this regularly.

Parents and carers should be encouraged to limit the number of settings their child attends, ideally ensuring their child only attends the same setting consistently. This should also be the same for staff.

Term Dates 2020 – 2021

Autumn Term	Thursday 3 September - Friday 18 December 2020
Half Term	26 October - 30 October 2020
Christmas Holiday	21 December 2020 - 1 January 2021
Spring Term	Monday 4 January – Thursday 1 April 2021
Half Term	15 February - 19 February 2021
Easter Holiday	2 April - 16 April 2021
Summer Term	Monday 19 April - Friday 23 July 2021
Half Term	31 May - 4 June 2021
Summer Holiday	From Monday 26 July 2021

Christchurch Infant School INSET dates:

Thursday 3rd September 2020

Friday 4th September 2020

Friday 12th February 2021

Monday 7th June 2021

Friday 23rd July 2021

As a staff, we would like to say a huge thank you to the Governing Body and PTFA this year who have fully supported the school, raised funds towards school projects and been instrumental part of the school community. We are extremely lucky as a school to have a hard-working PTFA team who raise a large amount of money for our school every year. I would like to thank the PTFA for the way that they give their time to fundraising for our children.

I would also like to take the opportunity to say thank you for the kind words, cards and gifts children and parents have given staff. We love our jobs and enjoy supporting the learning, development and well-being of pupils.

Have a great summer.

Kindest regards
Mr Baxter