

St Bartholomews Primary School

Return to school of Reception

Dear All,

I hope this letter finds you both safe and well. As you know we are continuing our critical worker groups and opening for reception children from June 1st.

Below are the details of how school will work but everything is subject to change once we have tried everything, reviewed our plans and if there is any new guidance (there have been 11 different documents and numerous updates so far). It is essential that all parents follow this guidance to keep us all as safe as possible.

Reception bubbles

There are three reception bubbles and they will be completely separate from the main school. Children will be in a specific 'bubble'. They will work, play and eat within this bubble and will not be allowed to mix with any other adults or children in the school.

Drop-off and collection

Please use the gate on Peak Hill. Please use the queuing system as shown on the pavement and prepare your child to be dropped off to a member of staff. Parents will not be able to enter the school in the morning and only one parent will be asked to bring their child to school. It is your responsibility to ensure physical distance from other parents.

On entering school, children will be asked to wash their hands, and this will be a continuous feature of the day; e.g. on entry to the school, after playtime, before lunch, etc

Bubble 1 will start at 8.45am and finish at 2.45pm

Bubble 2 will start at 9am and finish at 3pm

Bubble 3 will start at 9.15am and finish at 3.15pm

Collection at the end of the day

Please arrive at the time given and you will be able to come into school and your child will be brought to you. There is a one-way system in place and you will leave by the gate on The Peak (the usual main school entrance).

School Uniform

As part of the guidance it is suggested that children have clean clothes every day as the virus can live on clothes for up to 12 hours. If possible please wear school uniform but if not please wear sensible clothes in school colours and practical footwear (no football kits please). Children will not be changing for PE.

Please do not bring anything into school including (book bags, toys etc). The only item children may bring with them into school is their packed lunch (including a morning snack) and a water bottle. For safety, the water fountains have been disconnected. Children will be able to refill their bottle during the day. There will be no breakfast or after-school clubs for reception children.

The children will be provided with a curriculum which will focus upon aspects of learning and well-being. Children will all have experienced very different situations during the last few months and will all be coming back to school in very different emotional places – our priority will be to ensure their happiness and wellbeing.

We have adapted our current behaviour policy. There will be zero tolerance of children breaking the rules that might lead to any adult or child being endangered. Any deliberate breaking of the rules which endangers the health of others cannot be tolerated. Any child that does, will be excluded.

If a child falls ill during the school day and is demonstrating signs of having COVID 19, they will be isolated with an adult in full PPE. They will be sent home as quickly as possible and the family will have to isolate for 14 days. They should also have the child tested as soon as possible to see whether or not they do have the virus. On the same day every parent will be phoned to inform them that we have had to send a child home. Once we have the test result if it is positive then the other children and adults who are part of that child's bubble will also be sent home to isolate for 14 days. We will, of course, keep you fully informed if your child is involved in this situation.

To ensure good ventilation the children will be in classrooms that will have the windows open. We will not be using the air-conditioning during this period.

Playtimes will be staggered, and children will only be with their 'bubble'. Children will be encouraged to play games that are physically distanced.

Children who do return will be expected to be in school full-time (Monday to Thursday). If you decide not to return your child at this point but later change your mind, new intakes of children will only happen on a Monday and if we have space.