



Mrs S Pennington: Head Teacher
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Re: Phased re-opening for Reception Pupils

Dear Parents and Carers

Your child will soon be starting in Reception as part of the school's phased reopening. We will try to make this experience as positive as possible for your child. It will of course be different to what they are used to, and I want to set out what has changed so that you can prepare your child. Your child will be able to attend school part-time on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week. (Arrival and collection times below)

Travel to School

Pupils should walk to school where possible. Pupils should avoid travelling to school on public transport where possible. If you need to arrive by car please do not park on the pavements outside school or by the key stage 1 playground. Pupils should travel in separate vehicles to and from school wherever possible. The only time that sharing of vehicles can be considered is when there is no option to do otherwise (i.e. a sibling)

Please limit your arrival to one parent/carer per child or sibling group.

Arrival at School Using the one-way system

Please arrive at the white double doors at the front of school (between the Reception/KS1 gate and the staff car park). Your child's teacher or their attached member of support staff will wait for your child there. You must use the yellow spacers in order to maintain social distancing. At this time, you are not able to come into the building or stay for any period of time at the door as this creates crowding. Drop your child at the door and carry on along the same path towards and through the car-park and back onto the pavement. It is important that we get the children in quickly and safely. Please do not stay around the building to talk to other parents. Should you need to talk to the teacher for any length of time, please do to arrange for a phone/Zoom conversation.

Willow arrival time: 9.30am

Oak arrival time: 9.45am

On arrival all pupils will use alcohol-based hand sanitizer at the entrance to the building.

Collection Times

You will collect your child from the same place. Again, please be mindful to social distance while you do this. Children will be ready to be collected at the following times.

Willow collection time: 1.00pm

Oak arrival time: 1.15pm

What space will my child have to learn and play in?

Your child will have a desk as a base – a place to keep their things, however unlike with older children, they will not be expected to stay at desks. Each class will be able to use half the playground, however they will not be allowed to use the fixed playground equipment. Children will be provided with toys that can be cleaned after each use. They will not be allowed soft toys. The children will be expected to be in uniform. They will learn outside as much as possible, so please send warm clothes with them.

The classrooms look like this. There is a base/desk for children and there is a space for circle time. They have a box for their belongings and their equipment. They will have their own personal box of reading books to choose from. The children will be outdoors as much as possible.



A typical timetable looks like this:

EXAMPLE TIMETABLE for WILLOW	
9.30am	Children dropped off by parents
9.30-10.15	Arrival Register Fruit and milk Watch messages from teachers/assemblies
10.15-10.30	PE/outdoor activity
10.30-11.00	Work packs/outdoor continuous provision
11.00-11.15	Break- social time activity
11.15-11.45	Work packs/outdoor continuous provision

11.45-12.00	Tidy up
12.00-12.30	Lunchtime
12.30-1.00	Story time Home time
1.00pm	Children collected

N.B There will be a limited choice of ‘continuous provision’ due to the need to sanitise equipment each day.

Lunchtimes

Children can bring their own packed lunch or they can order a cold packed lunch from school. They will be asked each day what filling they would like in their sandwich. They will eat outside if the weather allows.

On Mondays and Tuesdays, the children will continue with the Reception learning pack.

Social Distancing

We will encourage social distancing where it is possible and organise learning and play as well as we can to minimise children being in close contact. We will encourage children not to other people; however, we have to be realistic about pupils of such a young age being able to maintain this. Handwashing will be regular and rigorous. It is advisable that children’s clothes are washed after each day at school.

Face Coverings

Pupils - face coverings (or any form of medical mask) unless instructed to be used for specific clinical reasons should not be worn in any circumstance by those who may not be able to handle them, for example, young children, or those with special educational needs or disabilities, as it may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission. Should a child be sent into school in a face mask, school cannot take responsibility for managing its use.

Staff- staff may choose to wear a face covering if they feel it is appropriate for their health and well-being. Staff will need to wear PPE should first aid be needed or if a child develops symptoms of coronavirus and needs close supervision that does not allow for social distancing.

What if my child develops symptoms at school?

If your child shows symptoms of coronavirus your child will be isolated until you arrive to take them home. A member of staff would supervise your child while remaining socially distanced. If this is not possible, the member of staff supervising your child will be required to wear PPE. Your child should self-isolate for a period of 7 days. Anyone else in the household should isolate for 14 days. You should seek a test for your child. Your child can return to school once they have received a negative test.

If a child in the bubble tests positive, the 'bubble' should self-isolate for 14 days and access testing as appropriate. The physical bubble will be deep cleaned and advice from Public Health England will be sought.

An important note about ‘bubbles’

Each class or ‘bubble’ is kept deliberately small to minimise risk. However, it is important to realise that children who are not old enough to social distance will now be mixing with more children and coming home to you and your family. It is dependent upon all of us to follow social distancing rules at all times not just as we come and go from school. Our children will be mixing, but by extension our families will be mixing too.

Important health reminder

You should **not** allow your child to attend if:

- Your child is shielding – you would have received official communication from the government if this is the case.
- A member of your household is at risk of severe illness or is officially shielding. If your child is too young to keep a 2m distance successfully, this will add an unacceptable degree of risk.

If your child has any medical issues that may make them more vulnerable (such as asthma) it is advisable that you discuss your child's level of risk with your doctor before sending them back to school. Should your child require protection or care (in addition to what is set out in the school risk assessment) then you must contact the school immediately.

Miss Howes and Mr Carr will contact you shortly through dojo. They will also email a short video so that children can see their classroom and outside space. I hope that this will help to reassure any child who may be anxious.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

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