

Frequently Asked Questions about returning to school in September

1. Will assemblies still be taking place?

Pupils will still have assemblies but these will be held in their classroom.

2. Will you be staggering start and finish times?

Yes – see the table below: Staff will be present at the start and end of day to direct you where to drop off and pick up your child. **You must enter the school site via the main entrance and leave via the Kent Road alleyway. Please try your best to come at the time given to help keep everyone safe and because lessons will start based on the drop off times. If your child is late they will miss out on a lot of learning.**

Year group	Start time	Finish time
R	8.45	3.00
1	8.35	2.50
2	8.55	3.10
3	8.55	3.10
4	8.35	2.50
5	8.45	3.00
6	8.45	3.00

3. What system will be in place when dropping off and picking up children to ensure social distancing?

Only one parent should drop off or pick up children. There will be a one-way system on the school site. Parents and pupils will only be allowed onto the site via the main entrance on Violet Hill Road, keeping two metres apart. After drop off parents will leave the school site through the Kent Road Alley. This may mean some parents need to walk a bit further but avoids a bottleneck on Violet Hill Road where there is only a pavement on one side and it is difficult to safely distance.

4. Can I access the school office?

The office will be manned, but parents will not be able to access it in person. However, the phone line and email will be operational to take any questions or pass messages on.

5. What if I have an urgent message, I would normally pass on at drop off or pick up times?

To allow for social distancing all messages should be put through the school's email (office@chilton.suffolk.sch.uk) or by phone (01449 612928).

6. If the office is shut, how do I pay for breakfast, after school club or school dinners?

From September we will not be accepting cash payments as we will have no system to process cash. All payments will need to be paid online through the new system we have in place with Arbor. Details for this have been sent previously but if you are having difficulty with it please contact the school office.

7. Will my child need their PE kit?
The guidance on this has been updated for September and children will need to bring their PE kit to school just as they did before Covid.
8. Does my child have to wear school uniform?
From September, all children will need to wear their school uniform including school shoes. The updated guidance says school uniform will not require any additional cleaning to normal.
9. Should my child tie their hair up?
All children with long hair should wear their hair tied back to try to avoid them touching their face.
10. Will breakfast or after school club be taking place?
Breakfast club will be operating from 8am and we are hoping to be able to run after school club until 5pm. We have shortened the after-school club times to allow for additional cleaning and also because pupils will need to be sat at separate desks, distanced from other year groups and we felt that doing this for 2 and a half hours was a bit too long for primary age pupils. We will be sending out a survey to get an idea of demand for breakfast and after school club which can also be accessed here: <https://forms.gle/MGFKXBD59uVnRcGz9>
11. Do I have to send my child to school?
From September, all pupils will be legally required to attend school. The only exception to this will be where a pupil has a specific letter from a doctor, which states that they should not attend school. If you think this may apply to your child, you should contact your GP over the summer so that if the guidance is to keep them off school you have a letter from your doctor ready. Failure to do this or to attend may result in you receiving a fine.
12. Will the school provide school meals?
All pupils who wish to have school meals will be able to have a grab and go packed lunch or a hot school meal. Universal meals (for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils) and Free school meals will be provided in school as usual.
13. Will trips be taking place?
The latest guidance says trips can take place; however, we have made the decision that any trips which involve any transport will not take place in the Autumn term. You will always be notified if your child is taking part in a trip.
14. Will my child be allowed to bring reading books and homework books home?
The guidance has been updated for September so that pupils can take reading and homework books home. However, all items that are not important for education should not be taken to and from school.
15. Are the schools rules the same for pupils?
The school rules for pupils are the same as before. Pupils will be asked to use good hand hygiene and avoid contact with other classes. Any pupil who intentionally leaves the classroom without permission or refuses to follow requests to follow good hand hygiene puts their own and others safety in jeopardy. If this were to happen, we would follow our behaviour

policy which refers to pupils persistently disobeying school rules. As a parent/carer you would be contacted and we would, in line with the policy, talk about how we could support your child to make better choices.

16. Can my child bring their mobile phone to school?

The government guidance is to not bring items to school that are not essential to learning. Therefore, we would ask pupils not to bring mobile phones onto the school site. Pupils who bring in phones will have them removed. They will be able to be returned to a parent from the head's office at the end of the week, on Friday, after school. Please come to the front office where they will be handed back. We will not be liable to loss or damage to phones that are brought to school and not handed in. We appreciate some parents may be used to pupils having phones but the reality is in many schools pupils are not permitted to bring phones and there is a lot of evidence which suggests the risk of possessing a phone is higher than its ability to protect you.

17. I have heard the children aren't allowed outside at break or lunch. Is this the case?

No, Children are allowed out, weather permitting, at break and lunchtimes. They will be kept strictly to playing within their class groupings.

18. How will the office contact me?

The office will try to avoid sending home letters wherever possible. Email will be the primary way of communicating with you so please ensure we have an up to date email account.

19. Will fruit still be provided as a snack at break times?

We do not know if the fruit scheme will carry on in September so please ensure your child has a healthy snack (fruit or vegetables) to eat at break time.

20. What do I do if my child is absent?

Parents need to call the school office to notify us of any absence, whether this is due to COVID or for any other reason. Please see <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/> for further information outlining the symptoms of COVID 19 and what you should do if you have them.