



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

OUR SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT - UNDERSTANDING - PEACE – HONESTY - RESPONSIBILITY - TEAMWORK

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Return to School September 2020 Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you so much for all your support in the last few months. We have compiled the information below to answer some of your questions. As with all information at this time, it is subject to change as we respond to latest government guidance.

Does my child have to return to school?

The short answer is yes. The government has stated that all children should return to school in September. Shielding children and those with underlying health conditions are also expected to attend school in September. We will be required to monitor attendance closely. Non-attendance will result in fines as was the case before the lockdown commenced in March.

If my child is back at school but is taken unwell or has to self-isolate will the online learning continue?

The government have asked that children continue learning at home if they are not in school, but are well. Our eSchools Academy site will continue to run and be used for weekly home learning set by the teachers in addition to and in order to support work carried out in class. In the event of whole school closure the site will be used fully as it was before the summer holidays. However, it may not be possible to use it in quite the same way for supporting children who are self-isolating whilst school is in full operation and more details will be provided separately with details as to how children will continue their learning at home if this is necessary.

How are the children going to socially distance with classes of 30?

The government guidance for schools states that it is acceptable for younger children not to socially distance as younger children will not easily maintain social distancing. However, we will do our best to support the children in understanding the importance of maintaining space between ourselves.

As government ministers have said, we cannot eliminate all risk or contact but will minimise these as much as possible using the following practices. In addition to social distancing, government guidelines outline a “hierarchy of measures” which educational settings should follow:

- avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms
- frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices
- regular cleaning of settings
- minimising contact and mixing

Public Health England states that if schools do this, then the “risk of transmission will be lowered”.

Furthermore, doors and windows will be open (when possible) to provide maximum ventilation. Careful thought has been given to the length of time children are expected to stay seated at their tables and the timetable will be adjusted to include an increased number of active learning breaks for the younger children (e.g. Wake and Shake). There will also be opportunities for outdoor learning, PE sessions and visits to our Forest Schools area. Singing will only take place outside in the fresh air at a distance from each other.

How are we going to keep the risks as low as possible?

Avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms

Although the period of time for self-isolation has increased, the advice remains the same, for both staff and children. Anyone with a high temperature, new persistent cough, loss of taste or smell should stay at home in self-isolation for 10 days, the rest of the family need to self-isolate for 14 days. Children who start symptoms in school will immediately be isolated and parents asked to collect them directly.

The latest guidance states that staff, parents and children who develop symptoms should access a COVID-19 test as soon as possible. If requested, parents should self-isolate and engage with the NHS Test and trace.

Frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices

Each year group will have their own toilets and handwashing facilities to reduce cross contamination. Children will be monitored to ensure they are washing their hands correctly as we did before lockdown. All children will wash their hands on arrival at school. In addition to the normal practice of washing hands before lunch, children will also wash their hands before and after playtimes.

All classrooms have a sink and will have hand sanitiser along with other cleaning products for that classroom. We will be putting up child friendly handwashing posters above all basins for all age groups. If your child suffers from eczema, please mention this to the staff working with your child's 'bubble' and appropriate adjustments can be discussed.

We will continue to promote the **Catch it, Bin it** for coughs and sneezes and are asking parents to provide a small packet of tissues which will be kept on their child's table.

Regular cleaning of settings

The school will be fully cleaned at the end of each day. Classroom based staff will be responsible for disinfecting tables and surfaces, handles etc. in their area as frequently as needed during the school day. Toilets and wash basins will be cleaned on a rota throughout the school day and bins will be emptied regularly.

Minimising contact and mixing

The government have recommended that we group children together and avoid mixing groups.

We will limit movement of staff between bubbles. However, there may be times when this may not be possible e.g. PE, coaches and intervention staff etc. These staff members will be mindful of social distancing as far as possible. Whilst the current guidance is in place, we will not be able to have assemblies, plays or other events at the school.

Each 'bubble' will be in one classroom, with designated toilets and have an area of the school grounds allocated to them for playtimes. They will have their lunch either outdoors or in their classroom and will not be using other parts of the school. All children will be allocated their own pack of resources, so they will not be sharing. This will include resources to support maths, reading and writing skills such as number lines, cubes and alphabet cards in the younger age groups. The children will not generally mix with other staff or children whilst in school, at any point during the school day.

Within their 'bubble', children will be encouraged to play non-contact games during playtime and will be able to play with a limited number of pieces of outdoor equipment (e.g. ball or hoops) which will be cleaned between uses.

Story Start and Homework Club

There will be no 'Story Start' or 'Homework Club' in the first two weeks whilst we settle the children back in to school. We hope to be able to offer this service at some point and will be in touch again about this with further information.

Will my child be with their friends?

Yes, children will be back in their class groups, so they will once again see the friends in their class. However, social distancing will still be implemented as far as possible.

Will they be coming back in uniform?

All children are expected to return in full school uniform. Government guidance states that no special or additional cleaning of school uniform is required, but you may choose to wash uniform more frequently than usual.

PE days

In line with government guidance PE lessons will take place outside unless it is unsafe to do so. It is therefore important that children have full PE kits including tracksuits. In order to limit changing of clothes in school we will be trialling asking children to come into school wearing their PE kits on days when they have PE and then changing into their uniform afterwards. (Younger child may stay in their PE kits but will need spare uniform on these days in case of accidents) Teachers will be in touch with details about PE days on the curriculum letters which will go out at the beginning of term.

All children must have an outdoor coat, sun hat, wellies. Children must arrive at school wearing sun cream as appropriate for the weather.

What should they bring with them?

- Children should bring:
- An outdoor coat (suitable for the weather),
- Wellies (KS2 leave their wellies in school for the term, Windmills/KS1 will wear them to and from school)
- A sunhat – important as more learning will take place outside
- Lunch box and water bottle (see additional information about school lunches) or cups will be provided. Children can refill water bottles as necessary.
- A packet of tissues to be kept on their desk.
- Book bag, but no backpacks (Year 6 may continue to bring their own pencil case, but need to leave it in school)
- Any medication such as inhalers and epi-pens need to be brought to the kitchen door between 9.20am-9.45am on the 2nd September with completed medical forms – please check medicines are in date.
- *Please note: Sun cream should be applied before school.*

What will happen regarding lunches?

AIP will provide lunches (mixture of easy hot food such as pizza/ jacket potato and cold food) and further information has been provided about this separately. Please continue to provide a refillable water bottle from home.

How will you prepare the children for their return to school? How will you support children's emotional and mental well-being with the school environment looking so different?

Our SENDCOs have sent out a selection of resources to support you in discussing your child's return to school. These are relevant to all children and we urge you to check the school website COVID 19, SENCOs / Wellbeing.

Will my child still be taught in the same way as before lockdown?

School will look and feel different as we return but teachers are planning for a variety of academic lessons and wellbeing sessions to suit the needs of all year groups. Though the majority of tables in KS1 and KS2 classes will be forward facing, the children will be sitting next to other children again, which will enable partner work to resume. In line with our FRESH curriculum we will use outdoor learning as much as possible.

The beginning of the Autumn Term will prepare the children to settle back into school, rebuild friendships and behaviours for learning.

We will use PiXI mini assessments for Year 2 and above to ascertain where gaps in learning exist and tailor teaching appropriately to the needs of the children.

Will my child bring home a school reading book?

Latest government guidance now allows children and teachers to take school books home. We are excited for children to resume borrowing a school reading book in the Autumn Term. We have introduced a system to ensure that when books are returned to school they will be quarantined for 72 hours before lending them out again.

Drop off and pick up

We will continue to operate a one way system for dropping off and picking up children as shown on the diagram below. Drop off and pick up times for each year group will be staggered as outlined below. Parents are asked not to arrive before these times and not to stay on the school premises having collected their children. All parents are asked to hold their child's hand or keep their child close by whilst they are in the playground and children are not allowed to use the trim trail. We will continue to use the allocated waiting areas marked at two metre intervals for each class drop off area. Sadly, we would ask you not to use it as an opportunity for mixing and socialising at this time. Only one adult per family will be allowed onto the school site at the designated time, to drop off or pick up your child(ren) and then leave immediately. We kindly ask you to leave any other children not attending our school that day at home if at all possible.

If you have any messages or queries please email or call the school office if at all possible, so that staff are able to focus on keeping themselves and the children, socially distant and safe at these times.

If you have a message for the office which cannot be given via email or telephone, please only enter the Reception area one at a time. Please excuse staff speaking to you through the glass window, this seems to have worked well since the beginning of lockdown, so we will continue to do this in September.

Drop off/Pick up Arrangements for September 2020

- **One way system in place**
- **Please ensure you are social distancing (use white lines)**
- **Please enter/exit the school very promptly so we minimise adult time on the school premise**

Foundation Stage (Windmills Reception Class)

- Drop off/pick up via the Field Gate and exit via the alley (please use for 'Settling in sessions' too)
- All Reception children to wear wellies into school and out from school.
- Shoes will be kept in shoe storage area overnight/wellies on wellie storage rack in the day.

KS1

- Drop off/pick up via the Field Gate and exit via the alley
- All KS1 to wear wellies into school and out from school.
- Shoes to be kept under desk at night/wellies under desk during the day in a named plastic bag.

KS2

- KS2 to enter school via the school drive path and exit via the alley

Families with children in both KS1 and KS2

Morning - Eldest siblings to be dropped off first (Please stick to times on table below)

Afternoon - Again, Eldest siblings are to be collected first. Younger children will be kept in the classroom until the older sibling(s) have been collected. Parents will then collect younger child(ren).

Morning drop off times and locations

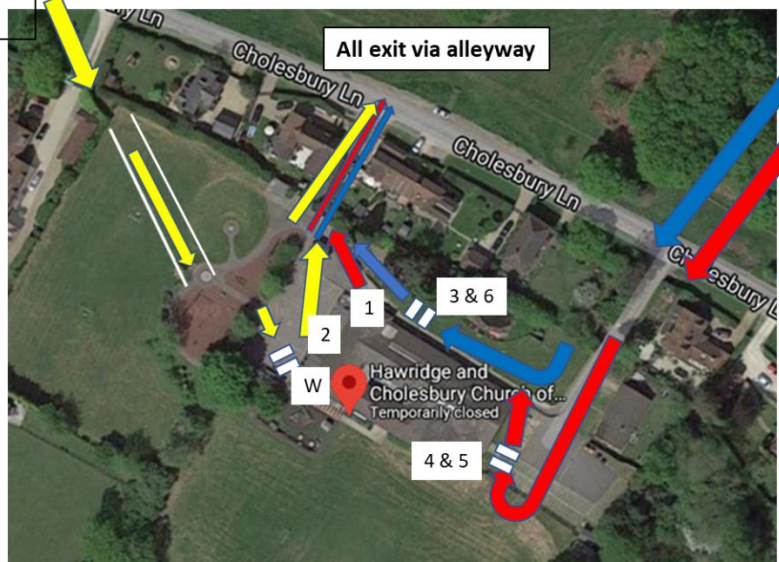
	Front Door	Car Park Door	Classroom Door
8.40 - 8.50	Y6	Y5	Y2
8.50 - 9.00	Y3	Y4	Y1
9.00 - 9.10			Windmills*

Afternoon pick up times and locations

	Front Door	Car Park Door	Classroom Door
2.45			Windmills*
2.50			Y1
2.55			Y2
3.05	Y3	Y4	
3.15	Y6	Y5	

*These times apply from 7th Sept. for Windmills class. Please refer to previous letter for 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sept 'Settling in' sessions timings.

Windmills, Year 1 and Year 2
Entrance: Field gate
Walk across field to classroom
gate/door



Year 3,4,5 and 6 Entrance : Main entrance
Year 3 and 6 Front Door
Year 4 and 5 Car park door

Disabled Badge Holders – children will be collected from/dropped back to the car park by a member of staff

School Bus – children will be collected from the bus in the morning and delivered back to the bus in the afternoon by a member of staff

Village Nursery – children will be dropped/collected according to year group times

Messages - To facilitate adults freely flowing through this system we would ask that any messages/issues/questions for the teacher at the beginning/end of the day are addressed via the office email. Teachers will then reply direct or phone if required.

Visitors may only enter the school building by phoning / emailing the office to make an appointment (unless urgent).