



ALVERSTOKE COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL

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16th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We are currently making plans for the return to school of all children in September.

Government guidance for schools notes:

For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19).

The risk to children themselves of becoming severely ill from coronavirus (COVID-19) is very low and there are negative health impacts of being out of school.

We would like to share with you our arrangements for abiding by the guidance issued by the Department for Education. Please read and consider the following notes. We want you to be confident that we are doing our utmost to make the school as safe as possible for the whole community, so please get in contact with us if you have any questions or concerns.

How we will avoid possible transmission of the virus when arriving at and leaving the school site

Please continue to follow the one way system when coming into school and stay a 2m distance behind the family in front of you. Teachers will be at the classroom doors to welcome the children. Parents/carers will not be able to enter the classrooms or talk to the teacher, however the office will be happy to pass on any messages (please try to contact the school office by phone or email in the first instance to avoid coming into the building).

Starting and finishing times are being staggered to reduce the number of families coming through the gate at the same time, however we are happy for younger children to be dropped off at the same time as their older sibling, and for you to prioritise getting junior siblings to school punctually, even if you are a little late bringing younger children in.

Year 2 drop off between 8.40 and 8.50am, and pick up between 2.55 and 3.00pm

Year 1 drop off between 8.50 and 9.00am, and pick up between 2.50 and 2.55pm

Year R drop off between 9.00 and 9.10am, and pick up between 2.45 and 2.50pm

How we will reduce contact between groups of children to minimise risk

Children can be taught in groups of 30 (whole classes), and we will ensure that class bubbles avoid contact with other classes. This means that we will have separate playtimes, assembly times and lunchtimes.

Although most school activities will be back to normal, we will adapt some procedures to avoid unnecessary movement around the school. To help with this, we would like the children to wear leggings/track suit trousers and trainers or plimsolls (velcro fastenings please), with school shirts and jumpers, on outdoor PE days which will be notified in September.

We will not be running external after school clubs at the start of term (football, ballet etc). Children attending Breakfast and After school club (Cabin Crew) will be kept in year group bubbles.

How we will reduce the potential transmission of the virus by hand

We will continue to practise rigorous hygiene procedures with the children. They will wash hands or use hand sanitizer on arrival at school, and at regular times during the day. Resources such as pencils and scissors will be kept individually, and other equipment will be regularly sanitised. Children will no longer be sitting on individual desks, and will be able to move more freely around their classroom, however we will continue to encourage them to avoid close face to face interactions, and staff will maintain a social distance wherever possible.

Book bags and lunch boxes can now be brought into school and we will be issuing reading books and library books again. We expect the Fruit and Veg scheme to be restarting September, so children will no longer need to bring a piece of fruit into school.

Lunches will be eaten in the dinner hall again, and you will be sent the new HC3S lunch menu in September.

Procedures for those who have coronavirus symptoms

Please be extra vigilant and do not send children into school if anyone in the family becomes unwell with a new continuous cough, a high temperature or has a loss of taste or smell. You should follow the latest stay at home guidance on the gov.uk website.

If a child develops these symptoms during the school day, we will isolate them away from the classroom and will ask you to collect them immediately.

If we are notified of a confirmed case of Covid19 in school, we will follow advice from Public Health England, and will keep you informed at all times.

As a reminder, we are **closed for INSET training on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September**, and the first day of school for Years 1 and 2 children is **Monday 7th September**.

We do hope you can enjoy a safe, healthy and happy summer, and we look forward to seeing everyone again in September.

Kind regards



Steph Greenwood
Headteacher