



March 8th 2021

Re-starting school information

We are pleased to be welcoming your child back to school and hope that they enjoy being back in a classroom. However, as we continue to live with COVID-19, the way the school is set up and organised must continue to take this into account. Here is a reminder of some of our procedures and ways of working. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Please read all of this information in full

Classroom and teacher information

Your child will continue in their usual class 'bubble'. They will remain in this bubble throughout the day and be supported by a teacher and a member of support staff. Your child will not be able to socialise with children from other bubbles. This is to reduce the risk of infection around the school.

Attendance

Attending school is compulsory. Your child does have to attend by law and you may be fined by the Local Authority if you do not send your child to school.

Please follow the school's usual absence reporting procedures if your child is unable to attend school for any reason, by calling the school office on 01482 325913.

Children strictly cannot attend school if they themselves, or a member of their household, displays symptoms of COVID-19:

- a new, continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste

Breakfast club

Breakfast club places are currently at maximum capacity. However, this will be reviewed on an on-going basis in line with Government guidance.

Dropping off and picking up children

We ask that all parents arrive at the school at the time allocated. Please do not arrive earlier or later than your time, as this will mean that you may cross over into another bubble, increasing the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Only one adult should accompany your child to the school. This is to reduce the amount of adults around the school site.

Parents MUST maintain social distancing at all times. Parents are asked not to congregate at the school gates and will not be able to have the usual face-to-face contact with the teachers. This is to reduce the risk of infections between adults.

What to bring to school

Please can children bring:

- Bottle of water, named
- Packed lunch (if they are not entitled to a free school lunch, or you wish for them to have their own)
- Book bags / homework books
- PE kits (not needed)

Lunchtimes

School meals will be available for children and the current menu is available on the school website. As usual, these are free for all children in Foundation Stage 2, Year 1 and Year 2.

Lunches will be eaten in the classrooms.

Children may choose to bring a packed lunch of their own to school.

School uniform

We would like your child to wear their uniform at all times. Children can bring their PE kit (shorts/jogging bottoms and a t-shirt) on the days that PE is taught.

Long hair must be tied up and it is recommended that children keep their nails cut short.

Children must not wear jewellery to school.

Face masks

It is currently NOT recommended that primary school aged need to wear facemasks in school settings. We ask that all adults wear masks when they are on the school site. This includes when at the school gates.

School office

We ask that visits to the school office are kept to a minimum and, where possible, parents telephone the school instead.

If a visit is required, please ensure that only one family/household stand in the school entrance. If someone is already in the office area, please wait outside until it is safe for you to enter.

Behaviour of children

It is important that children follow the school's established rules and also the COVID-19 safety rules, which include washing hands and, where possible, remaining socially distant.

Children must follow all adult instructions while at school. Children will be given lots of support to enable them to follow these rules and stay safe. Please prepare your child for these new rules.

Special Educational Needs Pupils (SEND)

Pupils with additional needs will be supported by the school staff and overseen by the school SENDCO (special educational needs coordinator).

If a child has a significant need, a risk assessment may be completed in order to ensure that all of their needs are met.

What will happen if a child becomes unwell?

If anyone becomes unwell with a **new, continuous cough or a high temperature** in an education or childcare setting, they will be sent home and advised to follow the *COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance*. The child and everyone who lives in their household will be asked to take a COVID-19 test. The school ask that test results are shared with them, so that the safety of the other children and staff can be maintained.

If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to a room where they can be isolated at least 2 metres away from other people. Staff looking after the child may need to wear personal protective equipment (PPE). In an emergency, 999 will be called if the child becomes seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. If children are displaying symptoms, you cannot visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.

We will follow the Government guidance set out below.

When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they will be sent home and advised to seek a COVID-19 test. The child and their household members should self-isolate until the test results are confirmed.

If any member of your household displays symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should seek a COVID-19 test and all members of the household must self-isolate until the results are confirmed. Children cannot attend school if anyone in their household is awaiting results of a test or has had a positive test result.

We ask parents keep the school informed of all tests that have been carried out and of the results. This is extremely important so that we can keep all of the children and staff in the school as safe as possible.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests **negative**, they can return to school and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.

Where the child, young person or staff member receives a **positive** test result, the rest of their class bubble will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise schools and other settings on the most appropriate action to take. In some cases, a larger number of other children, young people or staff members may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group.

Hygiene measures in place

To help reduce the risk of infection, we will:

- follow the *COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings guidance*
- ensure that sufficient handwashing facilities are available. All classrooms have sinks. Hand sanitiser will be available in areas without access to soap and water.
- clean surfaces that children and young people are touching, such as toys, books, desks, chairs, doors, sinks, toilets, light switches, more regularly than normal
- ensure that lidded bins for tissues are in all rooms.
- where possible, ensure spaces are well ventilated.
- prop doors open, where safe to do so (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding), to limit use of door handles and aid ventilation

We will ensure that all adults and children:

- frequently wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and dry thoroughly.

- clean their hands on arrival at the setting, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing
- are encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose
- use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, kill it')
- ensure that help is available for children and young people who have trouble cleaning their hands independently

We will consider how to encourage young children to learn and practise these habits through games, songs and repetition.

Additional measures to reduce the risk of infection.

In addition to what has already been mentioned

We will:

- give children a designated classroom and group (which we are referring to as their 'bubble') for lessons and play, to minimise the opportunity for mixing.
- regularly clean the setting.
- not allow children to bring in their own resources such as pencil cases.
- use PPE such as gloves, aprons, masks, hand sanitiser and anti-bac wipes as identified in our risk assessments, when it is necessary to do so.
- confine resources to rooms to minimise sharing and when sharing is essential (eg laptops and ipads), clean resources before transference.
- organise lunchtimes and playtimes differently, keeping children in their bubbles.
- be vigilant in identifying children with symptoms, isolate them and ask parents to collect them
- remove and/or restrict access to unnecessary items in classrooms.
- remove and/or restrict access to some soft furnishings, soft toys and toys that are hard to clean.

Thank you for reading all of this information in full.

If you have any questions about your child's return to school, please contact the school on

01482 325913

Or email questions to

admin@clifton.het.academy