

Response to Survey Questions - May 2020

As you are aware, the Government is encouraging all eligible children to attend schools (where there are no shielding concerns for the child or their household), even if parents are able to keep their children at home.

Thank you for your responses to our survey. We hope this answers your questions. You will find a full Risk Assessment for the reopening of Coombe Hill Infants on our website. This has been read and approved by our Governing Body and Achieving for Children. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to call or email us - admin@chi.rbksch.org or 020 8942 9481.

Notifying school of illness

Before allowing your child into school, we will ask you to inform us if anyone in your household is presenting with Covid-19 symptoms. **Please note**, if you had to give your child Calpol before the school day, you should **not** bring your child into school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Part time/full time

In order to ensure smaller class sizes, we are able to offer part time attendance for Reception and Year 1 children. We will continue to take guidance from the Government and Achieving for Children on whether this offer can be increased.

You will receive an email advising you which day/s your child is able to attend. In order to be fair, we are separating each class into groups based on alphabetical order (surname).

From Monday 1st June, we will start with a one day offer for all Year 1 and Reception children - either Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday with only 7 or 8 children in each class. (Wednesday will be a deep clean day)

From Monday 8th June, we will increase this to a two day offer for all Year 1 and Reception children - either Monday and Tuesday for group 1 or Thursday and Friday for group 2 with 15 children in each class (Wednesday will be a deep clean day between the two groups.)

Structure of school day

- Each group will be with their own teacher and/or TA if this is possible. This is

the group which will stay together throughout the day.

- The horseshoe outside the school will be closed and we expect parents to socially distance when bringing their children to and from school.
- Each class will have a designated drop off and pick up time.
- Only one parent will be allowed to drop off and pick up. If there is no one at home to look after siblings, please keep them close to you and ensure they maintain social distance.
- The parent and child will enter via the main blue entrance gate (at the top of the hill on Coombe Lane West, near Leopard class). This will be a one-way path and please observe the 2 meter social distancing markings. The parent will drop their child at the entrance to the ICT Suite where they will be met by Mrs Berry or Mrs Jakob and the teacher or the Teaching Assistant - familiar faces! The parent will then follow the markings to exit via the gate near the entrance/office) and will keep to the designated path. Please do not enter the school building to speak to the office. If you have questions, please email or phone the office and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Pick up of children will happen in the same way with staggered pick up times. Please follow the markings and lanes around the outside of both CHI and CHJ to ensure there is no congestion.
- As much learning as possible will be done outside, using our wonderful grounds. In the classrooms, doors and windows will be kept open to avoid people touching doors and to improve air circulation within the room. Movement around the school will be done via the outside classroom door as much as possible to avoid using internal corridors.
- We have followed Government guidelines regarding “implementing protective measures before reopening” and the classrooms have been deep cleaned and organised to remove any soft furnishings and soft toys. We have minimised the amount of resources available to the children and the children will have individual pots of pencils and all resources used by the children will be cleaned regularly.
- All children will wash their hands on arrival at school, regularly throughout the day and at the end of the day They will be supervised by an adult.
- Use of toilets will be monitored and supervised to avoid overcrowding and each class will have named toilets e.g. Ladybird toilet and Ladybird sink. Toilets will be cleaned regularly throughout the day

- Playtimes and lunchtimes have been timetabled to ensure the children stay in their group and avoid contact with the other groups.
- The Reception patio and the playground have been divided into 3 separate areas to ensure children stay in their group.
- Cold boxed lunches will be provided, however, you may provide your own lunch box if you want. Please ensure water bottles are clearly named.

Key workers

The list of key workers remains the same.

Social distancing

The children will be encouraged to social distance but everyone has recognised that it is not always possible for such young children to understand and comply with this. The children will be kept in their groups throughout the day for their learning, play and lunchtime.

Shielded and Clinically vulnerable adults in your household

The Government advice states:

“If a child, young person or a member of staff lives with someone who is clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), including those who are pregnant, they can attend their education or childcare setting.

If a child, young person or staff member lives in a household with someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable, as set out in the [COVID-19: guidance on shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable guidance](#), it is advised they only attend an education or childcare setting if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and, in the case of children, they are able to understand and follow those instructions. This may not be possible for very young children and older children without the capacity to adhere to the instructions on social distancing. If stringent social distancing cannot be adhered to, we do not expect those individuals to attend. They should be supported to learn or work at home.”

Shielded and clinically vulnerable children

The Government advice states:

For the vast majority of children and young people, coronavirus is a mild illness. Children and young people (0 to 18 years of age) who have been [classified as clinically extremely vulnerable due to pre-existing medical conditions](#) have been advised to shield. We do not expect these children to be attending school or college, and they should continue to be supported at home as much as possible. Clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. A small minority of children will fall into this category, and parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.

Academic concerns and mental wellbeing

Please be assured that your child's safety and wellbeing is at the forefront of our minds. Settling the children back into school and re-engaging them with learning is key to ensuring their wellbeing and academic progress. Every child's experience of this school closure will be different and we will be focusing on social interaction, opportunities for speaking and listening and, of course, focusing on those key skills of early reading and maths.

School cleaning

Our school cleaning procedures are outlined in our Risk Assessment which you can find on our website. Part of the cleaning procedures includes the regular cleaning of resources used by the children and the regular wiping of surfaces etc throughout the day.

Procedures for a sick child

The Government guidance states:

"If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature in an education or childcare setting, they must be sent home and advised to follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#).

If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age of the child and with appropriate adult supervision if required. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.

If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.

PPE should be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs).

In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. Do not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.

If a member of staff has helped someone who was unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves (and in which case, a test is available) or the child subsequently tests positive (see 'What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in a setting?' below). They should wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. Cleaning the affected area with normal household disinfectant after someone with symptoms has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people."

Testing for children

The Government advice states:

"When settings open to the wider cohort of children and young people, all those children and young people eligible to attend, and members of their households, will have access to testing if they display symptoms of coronavirus. This will enable them to get back into childcare or education, and their parents or carers to get back to work, if the test proves to be negative. To access testing parents will be able to use the 111 online coronavirus service if their child is 5 or over. Parents will be able to call 111 if their child is aged under 5."

What happens if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 at school

The Government advice states:

"When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario.

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

Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or

group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 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 may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group. Where settings are observing guidance on infection prevention and control, which will reduce risk of transmission, closure of the whole setting will not generally be necessary.”

Face masks

The Government advice states:

“Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended. Face coverings may be beneficial for short periods indoors where there is a risk of close social contact with people you do not usually meet and where social distancing and other measures cannot be maintained, for example on public transport or in some shops. This does not apply to schools or other education settings. Schools and other education or childcare settings should therefore not require staff, children and learners to wear face coverings. Changing habits, cleaning and hygiene are effective measures in controlling the spread of the virus. Face coverings (or any form of medical mask where 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 as directed (for example, young children, or those with special educational needs or disabilities) as it may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission.

The majority of staff in education settings will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work, even if they are not always able to maintain a distance of 2 metres from others. PPE is only needed in a very small number of cases including:

- *children, young people and students whose care routinely already involves the use of PPE due to their intimate care needs should continue to receive their care in the same way*
- *if a child, young person or other learner becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus while in their setting and needs direct personal care until they can*

return home. A fluid-resistant surgical face mask should be worn by the supervising adult if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained. If contact with the child or young person is necessary, then disposable gloves, a disposable apron and a fluid-resistant surgical face mask should be worn by the supervising adult. If a risk assessment determines that there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing, spitting, or vomiting, then eye protection should also be worn.”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings#how-to-implement-protective-measures-in-an-education-setting-before-wider-opening-on-1-june>