



14.7.20

Dear Parents/Carers

We will do our best in this ever-changing climate to keep you updated with our plans for September as we receive new information from the government, which as you will be aware changes regularly.

We are now planning to welcome all children back to school in September. This will only be possible, of course, if the government continues to ease measures put in place in respect of Covid-19.

From September 2020, the government are making school attendance mandatory and fixed penalty notices will be issued once again for non-attendance in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.

All schools must comply with health and safety law, which requires us to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. We have reviewed our health and safety risk assessments and have now drawn up plans, which we feel will continue to minimise risk to our pupils, staff, parents and local community.

If your child or someone in your household has coronavirus symptoms:

- Staff, pupils and other adults must not come into the school if they have [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#), or have tested positive in the last 7 days, and anyone developing symptoms during the school day will be sent home.
- If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home and advised to follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.
- We will engage with the 'Track and Trace' process. Staff and parents must be willing to provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with if they test positive for COVID-19. We ask parents to inform school **immediately** if their child is tested and receives a positive or a negative result. The school will take swift action if we become aware someone has tested positive and take advice from the health protection team. If the school has 2 or more confirmed cases in 14 days, health protection teams may recommend that bubbles or a larger number of pupils self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure.

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Promoting good hygiene, handwashing and cleaning

Children must return to school in September in their full school uniform. The children will be able to bring their book bags (schoolbook bag or a carrier bag – no large rucksacks) and their PE bags back to school. Regular washing of clothes is advisable.

We will continue to ensure everyone on site continues to wash their hands more thoroughly and more often than usual.

In September, we will use the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to ensuring good hygiene following sneezes and coughs. Again, ensuring children wash their hands thoroughly after coughing or sneezing. As children can move around the room in the autumn we will ensure boxes of tissues are available.

We will maintain our enhanced cleaning routine: frequent cleaning of rooms and cleaning between groups of pupils using shared areas (ICT suite / lunchtime toilets).

Children will have their own, frequently touched equipment (pencils, pens, whiteboard). Junior children may bring a small pencil case with their own equipment in (must be relatively flat and small enough to fit into their tray – these cannot be left around for cleaners to have to move or clean around at night).

Classroom resources such as books and games will be shared within the bubble. Reading books will be sent home but will be 'quarantined' for 7 days in keeping with our risk assessment before being re-issued to another child.

How many children will be in a bubble?

School will continue to operate a 'bubble' system on a larger scale. In order to ensure the return of all children, the children will be in 4 bubbles across the school (year 5/6, year 3/4, year 1/2 and reception). Following the Government guidance, staff will continue to maintain a 2 metre distance from each other and from children when circumstances allow. In the juniors, all children will sit next to each other, facing the teacher.

Entering and leaving the school site

We will continue to follow the government guidance of social distancing as the children enter and leave the school site. The start and finish of the school day will therefore remain staggered. The government documentation states that the teaching day should not be reduced and our teaching day is 5 ¼ hours. Therefore, the start times and end times for each bubble will be as follows from 2nd September 2020:

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	Start time	Finish time
Reception (from 7 th September)	9.10am	3.30pm
Y1 / Y2	9.00am	3.20pm
Y3 / Y4	8.50am	3.10pm
Y5 / 6	8.40am	3.00pm

So far, dropping off and picking up of bubbles has been extremely successful and everyone has been able to keep a safe distance from others on entry and exit to the school using the marked lines and the 1-way system through the car park.

Parents picking up children from more than one bubble may continue to wait to the side of the office entrance along the hall wall.

Once children come into school, they will line up by their allocated cone and go straight into school with their class teacher. The children will be able to line up as normal (i.e. no social distancing) but will be reminded about staying alert and avoiding physical contact with others.

Children will be brought out at the end of the day and be allowed to go with their adult as their adult reaches the front of the line, outside the school gate. Only one adult needs to collect, we cannot accommodate additional adults in the social distancing line.

Speaking to your child's class teacher

We realise the staggered starts and ends to the day and social distancing at the school gate does not give you an opportunity to discuss issues relating to your child with an adult at the start or finish of the school day, therefore we will continue to keep email as a means of everyday communication.

MissDaleclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MrsRodenbyclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MrBoardmanclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MissBradleyclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MrsHawkinsclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MrsRobertsclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MrsHodginsclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MrsBostockclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MrsKanigowskiclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MissPayneclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MissSlackclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MissIllingworthclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

MrHartleyclass@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

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If you do need to speak directly to a member of staff, please make an appointment via the school office or by email with your child's class teacher and this will be facilitated in the school meeting room at a safe distance.

If you need to speak to office staff please telephone or email as the office entrance is very small and a queue would cause congestion for families waiting to drop off and pick up.

The school day

We understand that for many children and parents the return to school in September will be a daunting and worrying time. Our aim for September is to re-establish the positive relationships we as a school build up with our pupils, parents and wider community. We realise this can only be done if we continue to work together and celebrate the learning journey the children have been on whilst at home. We cannot thank our parent community enough for the time and effort spend continuing the education of your child/children during the lockdown period. We have enjoyed sharing your child's learning journey with you through email, photographs and conversations with yourselves and your child/ children.

In September, we will be focussing on the wellbeing of our children and re-establishing routine, structures, friendship, resilience and opportunities. Initially our learning focus will build on the work you have been doing at home with an emphasis on reading, writing, spelling and mathematics. As the children settle back into school, we will continue to explore the wider curriculum. As far as we are aware, the 2021 government assessment agenda will be resumed.

Each bubble will have a separate area within the playground and lunch times will remain staggered to avoid bubbles mixing during the school day. The children will continue to be taught in year groups for maths and will continue to be taught IT and French by specialist staff in the juniors. All PE will be outside and will be non-contact. There will be no whole school assemblies but classes will have their own assemblies and our reward system will continue. As far as we are aware, musical instrument lessons will restart during the autumn term with a relevant risk assessment. You may wish to talk to your peripatetic tutor about this. .

We have taken the decision as a school and a governing body not to restart swimming during the autumn term but will re-assess this for the spring term.

I am sure that by September, there will be further updates and we will continue to keep you well informed as soon as possible.

What you can do to help your child return to school in September:

- Start to prepare them for the September return. Give them opportunities to ask questions, talk to them if they are worried and reassure them
- Talk to your child about continuing to maintain a safe distance from others, keeping hands clean and 'catch it, bin it, kill it' (sneezes and coughs)
- Remind the children the staff are here to support them and will help them when they come back to school but that the staff have to maintain a distance, particularly in the juniors

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- Make sure they have their school uniform, PE kit, coat and other personal belongings ready and named
- Make sure the juniors have a **small** pencil case (must fit in tray) if they wish to bring one
- Make sure your child has a drink bottle with fresh **water** in (to be brought home and changed daily)
- Make sure your child has a fruit snack if they would like one (we are hoping the government fruit scheme will resume for infants from September)
- Check the start and finish times for your child/children's bubble and please do not arrive more than 2 minutes before the start and end of the day as you will clash with another bubble.
- Make sure the office staff / your child's new class teacher are aware of any changes in circumstances which may affect their learning or wellbeing in school

Thank you for all your hard work and support through what has been a difficult and uncertain time. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any unanswered questions, I am sure there must be many and we will do our best to provide you with the latest information.

G Hutton / L Nicholson

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