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2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Full School Opening**

As you are aware, the government has announced that schools will be fully open to all children on **8th March 2021**. We are very much looking forward to welcoming back all of our children to face-to-face education. The full opening of schools for all has been prioritised due to the significant impact that continued partial opening can cause to children's education as well as their mental and physical health and wellbeing.

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

### **Attendance**

From 8<sup>th</sup> March, school attendance will be mandatory and our usual tight rules on attendance will apply. **All children are expected to be in school.**

The majority of children will be excited to return to school but we understand that a few children might feel anxious about this. If you have any concerns and would like support, please contact us and we will be happy to help you. <https://new.croydon.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools/school-services-attendance-and-performance/school-attendance-and-law>

As a reminder, please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. Your child should self-isolate and not come to school if they:

- Have coronavirus symptoms or have tested positive
- Live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive
- Have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive.

In line with the latest government guidance, pupils who are **clinically extremely vulnerable should not attend school**. If your child is in this group, they should continue to learn from home until further notice. Please show your child's shielding letter to the office.

### **Our safety measures**

There is clear guidance from the government on what schools need to do to get ready for the return of all children. Rest assured that we are doing everything we can to make sure our pupils can return to school safely. We will be taking the following protective measures to keep everyone safe:

### **Good Hand Sanitisation/Hygiene Routines**

- Stringent hygiene and hand washing routines are in place. There are hand sanitiser stations at entry and exit points across the school and inside every classroom.
- Correct hand washing techniques are taught and modelled.

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- Pupils and adults will follow hand sanitising and washing protocols throughout key transition times during the day.
- School initiatives to remind and promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach when sneezing and coughing.
- Lidded bins in every classroom to dispose of tissues. These bins are emptied regularly throughout the day.

### Enhanced Cleaning

- Cleaning frequently touched surfaces (e.g. door knobs, light switches etc) regularly using standard products, such as detergents and bleach. This is done throughout the day.
- Toilets cleaned regularly throughout the day.
- Thorough whole school cleaning at the end of each day to ensure the highest hygiene possible.
- Enhanced, deep cleaning happening regularly.
- Each classroom has cleaning products to be used by the class teacher throughout the day on regularly touched surfaces.

### In Class/School

- To minimise contact with others and mixing, children will continue to be placed in Year group bubbles. This will be consistent, with minimal contact with other bubbles.
- Within the classrooms furniture will be arranged to allow and reinforce social distancing. Children will sit in rows, 2 to a table, facing forwards.
- Seating plans will be reinforced and followed.
- Sections of the playground will be allocated to bubbles of children to play in during playtimes. Each bubble has their own box of playground equipment. Equipment will be cleaned and sanitised regularly.
- Staggered lunchtimes will ensure year group bubbles of children do not mix, reducing contact with other bubbles as much as possible.
- Staggered start and finish times at the beginning and end of the school day to reduce overcrowding.
- Children will be reminded to social distance at all times
- Individual stationery packs will be provided to reduce the sharing of resources e.g. pencil, pens etc.
- Now that the weather is getting warmer, increased opportunities for learning to take place outside as this reduces the spread of the virus.
- Natural ventilation to enable clean flow of air to circulate (windows and internal doors open).
- Soft furnishing removed to reduce surface contamination.
- Resources will be regularly cleaned/sanitised.
- Clear signs to encourage and remind people of the importance of social distancing, good ventilation and good hand sanitisation.

### School Uniform

Children will be expected to wear full school uniform **except** on their allocated P.E days. On P.E days your child should come to school wearing their P.E kit which comprises of **plain black jogging bottoms** and a **plain white T-shirt**. Parents will be reminded of their child's P.E days via Parentmail.

### **Lateral Flow Tests for School Staff**

To further ensure the safety of everyone, we have asked staff to take a Lateral Flow test twice a week. These are tests that will find out whether they are asymptomatic. By testing we will further help to reduce the spread in school amongst adults through asymptomatic transmission.

### **The wearing of Masks**

Only the parents of Nursery and Reception children will be allowed onto the school site at the beginning of the school day. No one is permitted to be on the school site without a mask, unless exempt. Please ensure you wear your mask correctly. We do this to protect everyone on our premises. Please also be polite when reminded. Children under the age of 11 are not expected to wear a face covering.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

### **Outside the school gates**

As best as we can, we practice protective measures within school. However, outside of the school gates please be mindful that our pavements are narrow therefore we kindly ask you to please leave the area around the school gates as quickly as possible. As tempting as it is to talk to other parents who you have perhaps not seen for a long time due to lockdown, we ask politely that you collect your child and leave promptly. We are opening the gate from the linear path at the start and end of the day. To reduce congestion on the pavement. A member of staff will be present to welcome the children.

### **Staggered Start and End Times of the School Day**

	Start	Door	Finish	Door
EYFS	Morning group - 8.45	Nest & Nursery - Entry via Nursery large garden gate	Morning group - 11.45	Nest & Nursery - Exit via Nursery large garden gate
NEST & NURSERY	Afternoon - 12.30		Afternoon - 3.15	
RECEPTION	8.45	Reception - Apple, Pear and Cherry doors	2.50	Reception - Apple, Pear and Cherry doors
KS1 - Y1	8.50	Bottom Gate Met by Yr1 staff – enter via corridor door off playground	3:00	Parents on site Line up in the football playground. Leave via nearest gate by 3.05pm
KS1 - Y2	9.00	Bottom Gate Met by Yr2 staff – enter via Yr 2 classroom doors	3.10	Parent on site Line up in the football playground. Leave via nearest gate by 3.15pm
LKS2 - Y3	8.55	Main gate	3:15	Parents on site

		Met by Yr3 staff - enter classroom door in KS2 playground		Line up in the football playground. Leave via nearest gate by 3.20pm
LKS2 - Y4	8:45	Main gate. Children walk to their classrooms	3.05	Classroom doors Main gate
UKS2- Y5	8.55	Brownie gate - enter through USH	3:15 3.05 for children with siblings	Brownie gate
UKS2- Y6	8.45	Brownie gate - enter classroom through garden door	3.05	Brownie gate

At the beginning of the school day please drop your child at their entry point and hand them over to a member of staff who will happily direct your child to their classrooms. At the end of the school day only one member of the household of children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 will be permitted to enter the school premises.

**The staggering of times will only work if we work together to be on time. Please be prompt when dropping off and collecting your child. When waiting for siblings, please spread out across the site and do not congregate with other families.**

Lockdown has been a challenging period for all of us, and we'd like to thank you for your continuing support during this difficult and uncertain time. Once again If you or your child have any concerns about returning to school, or if you think your child might need extra support when they return, please get in touch with the school office.

We would also like to thank you **immensely** for all your support in helping your child learn from home. We will continue to keep in touch if we update our plans or if we need to make changes due to new government guidance.

Warm regards,



Mrs C. Fleary-Tayabali  
Headteacher