

2020/2021 TERM 1 - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Drop off and pick up

- **Who can drop off and collect my child from school?**
Any responsible member of your household can drop off or collect your child. If your child needs to be dropped off or collected by someone outside of your household, we request that the number of people doing this is kept to a minimum. This is in keeping with current Government guidance.
- **When should I drop off and collect my child?**
Drop off and collection times are as follows:

Fox group	8:45am – 3:00pm
Lynx group	8:50am – 3:05pm
Mink group	8:55am – 3:10pm
Sable group	9:00am – 3:15pm
Oak/Rowan	9:05am – 3:20pm
EYFS pupils	9:30am – 11:30am (3.9.2020 – 11.9.2020)

NB: From Monday 14.9.2020, EYFS pupils will arrive at the same time as their allocated group as above. We will inform you which group your child is in once they have started school (EYFS pupils with a sibling will be in the same group as their sibling)
- **Where should I drop off and collect my child?**
EYFS – EYFS outdoor learning area
KS1 – front gate
KS2 – back gate
- **I need to drop off and collect children from both gates at the same time? How do I do this?**
Drop off/collect your younger child first then move to the second gate to collect your other child.
- **What if I miss my allocated time slot?**
If you are late to drop your child off and they miss their allocated time slot, you and your child will have to wait until all other groups have entered the school. Your child will be marked as late in the register.
- **Can my child leave site on their own?**
Pupils in Years 5 and 6 can leave the site unaccompanied if written permission has been received from parents (form sent out by email to parents 21.8.2020 for this).
- **Can I bring my child's non-SKPS siblings with me to drop off and pick up my child?**
If possible, please leave any siblings at home to reduce the number of contacts. However, if this is not possible, then siblings may accompany you to school drop off and pick up. Please bear in mind that it is your responsibility to ensure that your child stays with you at all times and observes social distancing guidelines.
- **Will there be wrap around childcare?**
Wrap around childcare will be available through mSporti (before school) and Holden Park (after school). Booking is through the individual companies. Both groups will be based in the hall and pupils will be encouraged to stay in 'bubble areas.' Non-SKPS staff will support in all groups but will remain socially distanced wherever possible.

The school environment

- **What will the classroom look like?**

We will try and keep the classrooms as close to a 'normal' classroom as possible. However, we have been instructed by the Government to make some changes to minimise the risk of contamination. These include limiting the use of soft furnishings such as cushions, rugs and some toys. We have also been advised to space desks so that children are encouraged to maintain a reasonable distance where possible. Therefore, in most classrooms, desks will be forward facing with two pupils sharing each desk.

- **Can my child play outside?**

The Government are encouraging as much time outside as possible as there is evidence to suggest this reduces infection rates. We will, therefore, be encouraging children to be outside as much as possible. In addition, we will prop open external doors and windows to encourage air flow through the classrooms when appropriate.

The school day

- **What will my child have for lunch?**

We are working with our catering team to ensure that school meals can still be provided. We are limiting the use of the hall to ensure bubbles do not cross over. Therefore, the following meals are offered:

EYFS/KS1 – Hot lunch in the hall (Monday, Wednesday, Friday)

Packed lunch in the classroom (Tuesday, Thursday)

KS2 - Hot lunch in the hall (Tuesday, Thursday)

Packed lunch in the classroom (Monday, Wednesday, Friday)

Pupils book their lunch on arrival in class. If your child usually pays for school meals, you will need to do this via Squid. Menus will be available to view on our website before the start of term (we have requested Fish and Chip Thursday and Fish and Chip Friday).

If you are providing a packed lunch, a reminder that we are a healthy school and encourage all children to have a healthy varied diet. No fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolate bars or nuts are permitted. This includes spreads that contain nuts such as Nutella (or supermarket own brand) or peanut butter – please follow this instruction as items containing nuts being brought onto site are a danger – we have both staff and pupils with severe airborne nut allergies. Please support us with this by ensuring that our school site is nut free.

- **Can they play with their friends on the playground?**

Pupils will be able to play with any pupils they wish from within their bubble. However, they will not be able to play with pupils from other bubbles such as siblings. We will encourage non-contact games as much as possible.

- **Will my child be able to play with toys?**

Some toys will be available to pupils within the Reception classes that are needed to support their learning. We will increase usual cleaning levels of toys that may be shared between pupils such as compare bears. Some toys will not be available as they are difficult to clean. Pupils in other classes will have access to some toys within their classroom for wet play or golden time.

What to bring/wear to school

- **What can my child bring to school?**

Current guidance states pupils should bring the minimal requirement necessary for learning. Your child should bring:

- A named water bottle
- Suitable named outdoor clothing (sun hat or coat weather dependent)
- A snack if required, which should be either a disposable fruit or vegetable (i.e. banana, apple, carrot or similar) or in a disposable container.
- A named lunch box (if applicable). We encourage the use of washable lunchboxes wherever possible rather than wipe clean.
- For KS2 pupils, a small, named pencil case with suitable equipment (writing pencil, eraser, sharpener, 10-20 coloured pencils, ruler – please see our end of term letter for an example of this). This will stay in school.
- Reception pupils will need to bring a change of clothes, in case of accidents, which will stay on their named clothes peg.

At parents' discretion, and to support "catch it, bin it, kill it" NHS advice, your child may bring:

- A tissue or small packet of tissues to be kept in blazer pockets
- A small bottle of hand sanitiser or lotion

These will be removed if they cause a distraction from learning.

Your child is not required to bring their school bags into school. However, if it will help them to carry and organise their things, they are more than welcome to do so, but please note that all keyrings/furry toys attached to the bag should be removed. Please apply once a day sun cream before school if appropriate. We will not be able to help your child apply their own sun cream in school.

- **What should my child wear to school?**

The Government has advised that normal school uniform should be worn by all pupils. This includes ties, jumpers, blazers and school shoes.

- **Can my child bring their scooter or bike to school?**

Yes, we are now able to keep these on site again. However, if you can take the bike or scooter home with you after drop off, this would be preferable.

- **My child sometimes needs a change of clothes at school. Should I send this in?**

Yes please, in a clearly marked carrier bag that will remain on their peg. If your child has not made use of this previously, or you do not anticipate a need for this, you do not need to provide this. We do have some spare clothing in school.

- **My child needs medication in school. Should I send this in?**

If possible, please arrange for your child's medication to be taken at home rather than at school. We realise this will not be possible in all cases. If your child needs medication at school, please contact the office who will send you an electronic form to complete. You will then need to deliver the form, along with the medication, to a member of staff at the front entrance of the school on your child's first day.

- **Does my child need to bring their PE kit to school?**

No, PE kit will remain at home. However, during Term 1, pupils will be asked to come to school in their PE kit on Mondays. This should include black (or dark) trainers or plimsolls. PE lessons will be outside so please make sure your child has tracksuit bottoms and a sweatshirt if necessary, as per the uniform policy which is available to view on our website.

- **Can my child bring items such as toys and trading cards into school?**

Pupils should not be bringing in any items from home such as trading cards, toys, sunglasses or anything that is likely to be passed between pupils. This is to reduce the risk of spreading infection.

Staff

- **How many staff will my child be in contact with?**

There are up to 6 staff members assigned to each bubble. Your child will have regular contact with these members of staff. There will be times when other members of staff

need to work with your child, for example, specialist lessons or interventions. In these cases, we will endeavour to use staff members from within the bubble if possible. Where this is not possible, staff will remain 2 metres away from your child.

- **What if I need to speak to my child's teacher?**

Members of staff will greet the children at the school gate and as they enter the classrooms. You will be able to speak to a member of the office staff at this point if necessary. However, it will help us maintain social distancing if communication can be via email or phone rather than in person. You will be able to contact your child's teacher on matters relating to work through the Class Dojos app. For all other matters, please arrange a telephone appointment through the office.

- **Will staff be wearing PPE?**

No as this is not recommended by the Government for staff in school. Some staff may wear masks where they need to come into contact with others outside their bubble, for example, the office staff. Staff may wear PPE if:

- The tasks they are carrying out require them to wear PPE under normal circumstances (for example, when dealing with first aid)
- They are caring for a child who is displaying symptoms.

Emotional support

- **My child is worried about coming to school. How will you help them?**

If your child is worried about returning to school, please let us know. We have a booklet for pupils so that we can help them understand what it will be like coming back to school. If you would like a copy of this to share with your child at home, please contact the office. Do talk to your child about what they may be worried about and reassure them, but be honest. We also have support programmes in school.

- **How can I help prepare my child to return to school?**

Talk to your child and be positive. School will be a little different but our experiences to date have shown how resilient our children are.

Safety

- **How can you guarantee my child will be safe?**

In line with Government guidance, we have put in place a number of measures to reduce the risk of catching Coronavirus within our setting including elements of social distancing and increased hygiene. This will reduce the risk of becoming infected although we cannot eliminate this altogether. Our risk assessment will be available on our website before the start of term and is updated regularly.

- **What additional measures will be in place?**

Following Government guidance, essential measures include:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

Contacts will be reduced by:

- grouping children together
- avoiding contact between groups
- arranging classrooms with forward facing desks
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible

- My child has a medical need. Should they attend?**

School attendance is mandatory for all pupils. Pupils are no longer required to shield. A small number of pupils who are under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school (usually at their next planned clinical appointment). You can find more advice from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health at [COVID-19 - 'shielding' guidance for children and young people](#)
- I don't feel comfortable bringing my child in to school, is it ok to keep them at home?**

No. All pupils are now required to attend school unless they are self-isolating under Government guidance. If you or your child are particularly anxious about their return, please contact the school so we can discuss options to support you and them.
- How can you ensure children socially distance?**

There are two elements of controlling the spread of a virus by social distancing; maintaining a specified distance between people and avoiding the gathering and mixing of large groups. It is not possible to keep young children at a specified distance from each other at all times. We will, therefore, be focusing on the second element of social distancing, avoiding the gathering and mixing of large groups. Our 'bubble' model ensures that children will only mix with a maximum of three classes and will not mix with other members of the school community.
- How is hygiene going to be maintained when children are in school?**

Staff will be supporting pupils to wash their hands frequently for the recommended 20 seconds at least 6 times a day. They will also be supported to employ 'catch it, bin it, kill it' if they cough or sneeze. Soft furnishing within the classrooms will only be used when necessary for learning and most of the surfaces are wipe clean.
- Will there be additional cleaning?**

Yes. In addition to our usual cleaning routine, bins will be emptied more frequently and non-toxic cleaning supplies will be available for staff to use throughout the day. Our onsite cleaner will also be cleaning each room during the day when the pupils are outside.
- Can my child wear PPE?**

PPE is not recommended for use in schools. If you wish your child to wear a mask, they will need to be able to put it on and take it off themselves. Please bear in mind that guidance around these types of masks indicates that they are for the protection of others **not the wearer**. There is also some evidence that not wearing one properly and the additional touching of one's face may increase the risk of infection. We would, therefore, not recommend this.

Symptoms of COVID-19

- What will happen if a child displays symptoms?**

If a child displays symptoms, they will be removed from their class as soon as possible. Staff in the office will care for them and may need to wear PPE to do so. Parents will be contacted to collect their child as soon as possible.
- What will happen if a member of staff displays symptoms?**

As with pupils, the member of staff will remove themselves from their bubble as soon as possible. Other staff will ensure the learning continues for the class.
- A member of my family is displaying symptoms. Can I still bring my child to school?**

No. In line with current guidance, if any member of the household is displaying symptoms, the whole family should isolate for the recommended time or until a negative test result has been received.

- **Can I get my child tested and how do I do this?**
If your child is over 5, they can be tested for COVID-19. You can find details of how to arrange this on the link below. Testing is not currently available for children under 5.
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>
- **What will happen if someone in the school has COVID-19?**
Following current Government guidance, if a member of the school community tests positive for COVID-19, they and their bubble will isolate for 14 days.

Remote learning

- **What will happen to remote learning?**
As all pupils are expected to attend school, remote learning will not be necessary. However, we will continue to use the Class Dojos platform for home learning. This will ensure staff, parents and pupils retain familiarity with this system in case of future lockdowns. Please upload completed home learning tasks to the system rather than bringing hard copies to school.
- **Our household is required to isolate. What are the education expectations for my child?**
If you have been abroad and are required to self-isolate following Government guidance, or if a member of your household has tested positive for COVID-19, your child will not be able to attend school. Remote education will be provided virtually and the same expectations will be in place for all pupils regardless of whether they are at home or at school. We will continue to use Class Dojos as the platform for this work and Zoom lessons will be part of this.
- **What will happen if there is another lockdown?**
We are planning for the eventuality of a future lockdown in terms of bubble, school or local lockdown. In each situation, pupils within the specified group will be expected to continue learning from home. Following feedback, we are looking at ways to improve this which may include printed work packs for pupils who have difficulty accessing technology, virtual lessons or lesson inputs or video lessons alongside, or as well as, the provision put in place previously. This will all be communicated through Dojos so it is essential that you are familiar and comfortable with using this. Please contact the school if you would like support to do this. Full details of our contingency plan will be agreed and in place by the end of September.

We hope that the information above answers any questions that you may have, however, if you are still unsure about anything, please do contact us.