



# **COVID – 19 Parent Briefing and Operating Procedures**

**September 2021**

**Return to school at stage 4 nationally – no  
restrictions in place**



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From 19 July, the government continues to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the virus but new guidance marks a new phase in the government's response to the pandemic. It is moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, alongside targeted interventions to reduce risk.

As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now an imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to children are extremely low and every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for two doses by mid-September.

The key messages from latest guidance are:

- nationally, education and childcare settings are open, and attendance is mandatory (for schools) and strongly encouraged (at childminders, nurseries and colleges)
- the [Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health](#) has made it clear that the overwhelming majority of children and young people still have no symptoms or very mild illness only
- staff will continue to test regularly if they are attending settings that remain open. Continuing to take regular rapid tests will help us to identify infections early and reduce transmission. There is no need for primary age pupils to test.
- The school will no longer trace close contacts - close contacts will still be identified via NHS Test and Trace
- children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact should continue to attend school as normal
- your child does not need to remain in a consistent group ('bubble')
- the government is removing the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet.

We have reviewed this guidance and incorporated it when making our new risk assessment. This briefing will give you all the information needed for the new term.

## **Arriving at school**

### Infants

Gates open 8.35am

Children come into classroom 8.40-8.50am Gate closes 8.55am

School ends 3.05pm

### Juniors

Gates open 8.30am

Children come into classroom 8.35-8.45am Gate closes 8.50am

School ends 3.10pm

- Masks in the school grounds are still recommended. We want to keep our school open in the autumn term and when up to 30 parents could have contact with a teacher in a day – it is better to keep masks as a feature of provision until we are sure cases have reduced in Walden. If you enter school, you will be asked to wear a mask or if you speak to a member of staff.
- We will operate year group bubbles until 20<sup>th</sup> September when we will review case numbers and may revert to more mixing within the school.

We will also:

- Continue to have doors and windows open as much as possible to maximise ventilation.
- Continue with hand washing/sanitising.
- Children will continue to come to school in PE kit on PE days and for after school clubs.

### **PE sessions**

- Your child will have two PE sessions each week and will come to school dressed in their PE kit on these days. One of which may be swimming, forest school or another PE session with their teacher but we will advise you of this in your child's topic letter on the first week back. Your child's PE lesson with our sports coach is below and these lessons will commence on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September:

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>PE slot</b>
EYFS	Wed AM
1	Tue PM
2	Mon PM
3	Tue PM
4	Fri PM
5	Thu PM
6	Wed PM

### **Swimming**

From Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, Year 3 and 5 will swim and from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, Year 2 will swim. As before the break, children will continue to wear their swimming costumes/ trunks under their school uniform.

## **Clubs and squads**

We will be commencing clubs in September. All details for how to apply will be sent out on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September via parentmail.

## **New Classes**

Here are the links to the welcome videos created by the teachers in each year group. They will advise you of what you need for your child for the new term and give you details of everything you need to know for the coming year.

EARLY YEARS	<a href="https://www.katherinesemar.co.uk/page/?title=new+to+EYFS&amp;pid=31">https://www.katherinesemar.co.uk/page/?title=new+to+EYFS&amp;pid=31</a>
YEAR 1	<a href="https://youtu.be/72dplhDcxDY">https://youtu.be/72dplhDcxDY</a>
YEAR 2	<a href="https://youtu.be/fc82-3MRYhU">https://youtu.be/fc82-3MRYhU</a>
YEAR 3	<a href="https://youtu.be/MRiovzSDE-s">https://youtu.be/MRiovzSDE-s</a>
YEAR 4	<a href="http://youtu.be/bA8OQlhKhvQ?hd=1">http://youtu.be/bA8OQlhKhvQ?hd=1</a>
YEAR 5	<a href="https://youtu.be/2uCbYXp7yi4">https://youtu.be/2uCbYXp7yi4</a>
YEAR 6	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_lgrlxktFU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_lgrlxktFU</a>

## **Outbreak management plan**

Please be aware that:

- Restrictions may need to be re- introduced in the event of an outbreak or subject to Government advice.