

Our plans shared with you

Wednesday 2nd September 2020.

Dear parents, carers, and children in Years 6, 7 and 8.

We cannot wait to welcome your children back over the next few days! The stability of a full school return is much needed. We believe that we have really good systems in place to reduce risks. Below are a series of actions and modifications to our normal ways of working that we believe will allow us to return safely with a really good albeit slightly different educational experience.

We would like to know what you think. Do you have any questions? Email admin@st-egwins.worcs.sch.uk

1. All children will be expected to return. Full uniform, including blazers. School bag with: reading book; pencil case with all the stationery needed (we will remind the children); water bottle and break-time snack.
2. Illness & NHS/111: please use the website and phone number if you are concerned about any illness or symptoms. High temperature; new and continuous cough; loss of sense of taste/smell.
3. Do not send your children to school if you are concerned about illness/symptoms.
4. Children/staff with **covid-related symptoms** will be sent home. We hope to be able to provide families with a home-test kit (if needed) when we receive these. We will await the test results before they return. You can call 119 or use the **Gov.uk** website to arrange testing.
5. Please let the school office know immediately in the case of absence and illness.
6. A **positive test** means a 10-day isolation for that person and 14-day for the rest of the household.
7. We will inform Local Health Protection Team and they will carry out an **immediate risk assessment** and decide who from school/home has to isolate.
8. **Phased return of all children.** To enable us to reintroduce the children and staff to a wide-range of new processes, we are planning on welcoming the children back in year groups in the following way: Year 6 on the Thursday 3rd. Years 6 and 8 on the Friday 4th. Years 6,7 & 8 on the Monday 7th.
9. Year 6 will have 3 form-based days, year 8 will have 2, year 7 will have 1.
10. **Each year group is now a Big Bubble. Each class is now a Bubble.** Within each year group, there are 5x Bubbles (class groups).
11. Year group: assemblies, toilets, lunches, breaks, playgrounds – all separate in time and space.
12. Bubbles (what we would call a class or group) will be taught separately in most subjects.
13. Please remind your child about social distancing on the way to and from school, especially with pupils outside of their year group.
14. **A staggered start to the day.**
Year 6 and children arriving on the buses will arrive (as usual) at 0810. At 0820, Year 7 will arrive. Then at 0830, Year 8 will arrive.
15. **It is really important that your child arrives at the time specified. Lateness could mix the year group bubbles.**
16. Buses: pupils from all 3 year groups travel together on the buses – since we can't have multiple buses. The bus company will sit the children in specific parts of the bus to support our social distancing. We ask all pupils, including under-11s, to wear face coverings/masks. This is strongly recommended.
17. Children travelling in on buses from **Hampton** to be encouraged to walk, cycle and/or use community walking buses?

18. We will **NOT ALLOW** any families to drop-off their children (by car or on foot) in the bus bay or on the school site. We cannot not permit congestion/mixing here. Please say your goodbyes away from the school and allow them to walk in on their own.
19. **A staggered end to the day.**
Year 6 will leave at 14.55, Year 7 at 15.05, then Year 8 and bus children at 15.15.
20. We accept that families might want new Y6s to walk to/from school with an older sibling. This is permitted. Let the office know if you want to do this.
21. Children will be met as they arrive and, depending on the weather, will be assembled by staff on the yards or go straight into the school building.
22. **All staff are in school as per a normal day.** In the case that covid-related or other staff absence compromises the school's ability to run safely, we will decide if we need to reduce the numbers of pupils in school, i.e. A group might be asked to stay at home for a day, etc. We sincerely hope that we don't have to do this – we will provide it.
23. We will use consistent seating plans in the classrooms.
24. Teachers move from class to class. Teachers sanitise and clean teacher desk, etc on entry to the classroom. Children will sanitise their hands when they enter their classroom, before eating (at other times depending on the subject) and when leaving the school. They are not allowed to bring hand gel with them.
25. While most teaching is in a single classroom with the staff moving around the school, some subjects will be taught in specialist rooms (P.E., Computing and Design Technology). We will return to the full, normal timetable (e.g. Science taught in Science laboratories) when it is safe to do so.
26. There will be cleaning (by staff) of classrooms between different groups being taught.
27. Staff will maintain 2m+ social distance from each other and from children. Staff may wear visors/face coverings. Children will not have to wear face coverings in school. There will be no communal areas where year groups mix so the guidance recently released is not relevant in our school. The rules surrounding the effective and safe use of face coverings is incredibly strict and many children of middle school-age would find it hard to follow then.
28. Teaching Assistants will work with small groups of children (from the same year group) outside of the main teaching rooms, in additional teaching spaces. Staff will clean here, too.
29. We will encourage pupils to social distance when queuing, playing outside, etc.
30. One-way systems in school. There will be a very significant reduction in the traffic in corridors.
31. Sanitising (with gel) rather than predominantly handwashing is the acceptable way to minimise risk of transmission (in conjunction with good handwashing).
32. No sharing of pencils, equipment, etc. Some resources (e.g. worksheets) will be shared by pairs in a class but not with pupils in other year groups.
33. Phones will not be collected in. Children will be asked to switch them off and leave them in their bags.
34. Children will eat their packed lunch in their bubble classroom. Children will eat hot meals in the dining hall. There will be no tuck at break time served by the kitchen – pupils have to bring their own. There will be a strict lunch rota and cleaning of tables and seats between year group sittings.
35. There will be enhanced supervision at lunch and break. We have asked for parent/carer volunteers to support this if required.
36. Pupils will be expected to follow behaviour rules absolutely strictly.
37. We will be monitoring school absence very closely to track potential outbreaks.

FAMILY UPDATE: Wider opening of school September 2020



Our plans shared with you

38. Enhanced cleaning – toilets, desks, high traffic areas, banisters, door handles, equipment. Children will not be asked to clean.
39. Curriculum areas to modify the activities accordingly. E.g. PE use one bag of balls for y7, etc. Food Technology conducts enhanced cleaning between groups.
40. After school clubs/breakfast club – initially suspended pending a review later in September.
41. Remote education will be available for isolating pupils.

I look forward to seeing your children over the next few days.

Mr Pullan

Headteacher