



## **Returning to School Parent Handbook**

This booklet has been written to give parents the details of what the school has put in place to make it as safe as possible for children to return to complete their transition from Penshurst CE Primary School to their chosen secondary school.

Our overriding priority is the safety and health of the children, families and staff within the school community. Every decision that we have made and every procedure we have put in place has this at the forefront. This means that there may be systems that we have put into place that may make some things trickier. However, they are there for everyone's safety and health.

**We will expect all families who choose to return to school to closely follow all social distancing rules inside and outside of school for the safety of everybody.**



Please take time to read the information carefully.

The information contained re social distancing (2m) and class sizes was correct when creating this booklet. Children are not expected to follow 2m social distancing but we do ask them to understand that adult to adult there will be social distancing. The classroom is set up to allow some space between pupils. Pupils will not be 'told-off' if they do not remember to distance themselves from each other.

## Why can more children go to school?



It's good for your child's mental wellbeing



It's good for children to socialise with other children



School is the best place for them to learn

## What has changed?



Reception	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Year One	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Year Two	<input type="checkbox"/>
Year Three	<input type="checkbox"/>	Year Four	<input type="checkbox"/>	Year Five	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Year Six	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Schools have been asked to welcome back fewer year groups; this allows us to make groups smaller and implement new health and safety measures. We have already welcomed back some children in Reception and Year 1; throughout lockdown we have made provision for the children of our key-workers. We also provide support for more vulnerable learners.

## What about their brothers and sisters?



Only children in the year groups above with ticks may attend school



Children in Year 2 to Year 5 **must** stay at home

## How are you making sure that the school is safe?



We will continue to evaluate the risk when we open the school



Our school will be cleaned more frequently



Children will be organised into 'bubbles' of no more than 12 and remain with the same staff all day



Everyone will wash their hands frequently



If a child or someone in their household is sick, they cannot come to school



We will make changes to the school day

## Attendance

### Does my child have to come into school?



You **will not** be fined if your child does not attend school

### What if I change my mind?

If you have a change of mind that is fine – call the school office and let them know. Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June is the final time we are allowing children to return. Please note that children are expected to attend full-time Monday-Friday: 9am – 3.15pm (you will be given a drop-off /pick-up time).

## School Meals

### Will my child have a school dinner?



There will be no hot dinners being served.



Children can bring in a packed lunch from home.



Children can order a cold packed lunch from the kitchen by telling their teacher in the morning.



All children need to bring in a filled up water bottle.

Children entitled to Free School Meals will be provided with a packed lunch. There are no hot meals but a packed lunch can be ordered via Mrs Bennett. These are charged at the normal school lunch rate. **Please remember that we are a nut and seed free school.**

### Will I have to pay for a school packed lunch?



Children in Years R, 1 and those in KS2 who are eligible for free school meals will not need to pay for their lunch.



All other children in KS2 will need to pay for their packed lunch. Please book and pay via ParentPay.

### Snacks

Please provide your child with a **healthy** snack for the morning and afternoon (we are finding that they are hungry as when at home they can eat more often!). **No chocolate items please** – provide fruit / vegetable sticks – see our snack policy. Lunches will be eaten outdoors (weather permitting) or in the allocated classroom.

## What else will be different?



The **School Office** will be manned by one member of staff who will be in the office to answer the telephone, pick up emails. Please make sure we have your latest contact details.

Our **Early Morning** and **After School Clubs** are not open at this time



School uniform should be worn and laundered frequently. If you have a problem with any items of clothing we have an extensive (!) range of second hand uniform which you can have- free of charge! Please speak with Mrs Elliott/Mr Harris is you have particular issues.

We are allowing '**dress down Friday**' when pupils can wear home clothes (sensible footwear – no sandals or flip-flops please).

### Drop Off / Pick Up from School

You will receive a letter detailing the drop off and pick up procedures that need to be in place for the safety of the school and local community. Please make sure you come at the time allocated and follow the procedures.



## **Be socially safe**

- All visitors to the school site are expected to adhere to the 2m social distancing rule.
- Please pay careful attention to the new signs around the site and maintain your distance from other parents and staff.
- No parents or carers will be allowed into the school building.

## **Increased hygiene**

- Children and adults should continue to use the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' message if they cough or sneeze. There are tissues in each class and a lidded bin.

- Hand sanitiser units are now installed around school
- Regular cleaning takes place – surfaces, touch points and resources
- Signs around school to alert pupils and staff to wash hands regularly.



## **What will happen in a bubble?**



There will be 4 'bubbles' in school. Children will be taught in these bubbles by the same teaching teams; children cannot mix across bubbles and it is important that children understand that they must stay in the areas they are asked to. Children will be asked to wash their hands frequently and to adhere to our social distancing guidelines.

These teams cannot be changed and will remain the same.

Year 6	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Mr Harris Break / lunch time and any other cover: Mrs Elliott				

If a member of staff becomes ill we will need to close the bubble as we cannot move staff from one bubble to another.

There is clear signage for moving around the school and the teaching team will support children to become familiar with our new routines.



# What will my child be learning?



Children will broadly be following the remote learning we provide via our website. This will be supplemented with project based work. Mr Harris will spend some time refreshing maths and English skills ready for transition to secondary school. We will also cover PSHE issues ready for the move onto the next step in your child's school journey.

There will time spent outside with PE equipment set aside for each bubble. There will opportunities to learn outside of the classroom too. Mr Harris will lead the learning and provide feedback and support to all pupils. Please be aware that Mr Harris will continue to monitor and support children who are not returning to school.



We return to school from something we have never been through before. We acknowledge that all children will have had different experiences during lockdown. Some will be keen to get back into school and 'get back on with things', whilst others will need a more gradual approach and will need some time invested in dealing with any emotions they may be feeling. We will listen to the children and respond in a sensitive and appropriate way.

I hope parents will understand that there are challenges to working in the 'new normal' ; we carry out the necessary risk assessments and make the adjustments needed to allow any Year 6 pupils to return to school. Needless to say, we revisit and review the day to day running of the school on a frequent basis.

# What happens if there is a case of Coronavirus in

## Can my child be tested?



Yes, if your child shows symptoms of Coronavirus they will be able to be tested. You can book a test by going to the following website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/>

## What happens if a member of staff is ill in my child's bubble?

If members of staff from the bubble are absent, we will have to close the bubble and the children in that bubble will have to remain at home. Parents and carers will be informed of this at the earliest opportunity.

Please ensure you advise the School Office if you or anyone in your household has symptoms of Corona Virus. Please also advise us if you are contacted by NHS Track and Trace and asked to isolate.

Please acknowledge, via the ParentMail form, that you have received all the information related to your child's return to school and understand that the school expects parents to support them in making the school a safe learning environment.