



## COVID-19 Return to School Arrangements

This document complements the Lancashire County Council COVID-19 risk assessment template, which is due to be published early September 2021.

### Return to School in September 2021

Government guidance now allows school to remove the ***bubble structure, other social distancing measures*** and ***control measures*** that have been in place for children. Our school will be doing this from September 2021. Government guidance also means we can also remove our staggered start/finish times and revert many aspects of school back to how school was working before the pandemic started.

However, we need to be clear that the pandemic has not gone away and as per government guidelines, we now need to learn to live with Coronavirus. As such some general measures will need to remain in place. From time to time, our arrangements may need to be reviewed in the event of any increase in infections or changes in government guidelines.

Below details some key changes to be aware of.

Please see [Government guidance](#) for latest information

### The School Day

The school day will revert back to normal hours for all classes as of **Thursday 2nd September 2021**.

School registration will be at **8:50am-9am**. Doors will be opened at **8:50 am** so children can come in, start learning and be registered. There is no need for children to line up – they can go straight inside. We ask parents and carers to bring children to the classroom doors promptly at **8:50 am** to support the organisation of the school day. Ensuring your children are in school promptly has a huge impact on their learning.

### Entrance and Exit Points

Parents may enter and leave school via any of the external gates.

The gates will be locked at 9am.

The main vehicle gate for staff and deliveries will be closed at 9am but not locked, as it is open for deliveries.

Parents are asked not to drive to the main Reception office or park in the staff car park in order to drop off or collect their children. The car park is for staff and visitors only. If children are brought to school late, parents and carers should park outside the school grounds in the usual way and accompany their child(ren) into the school grounds on foot and report to the main Reception office. A member of staff will then register your child as late (noting the reason you have provided) and accompany them to class.

**Collecting children at the end of the day.** School finishes at **3:15pm**. Children will be handed over to their parents and carers in an organised way and must leave the school site promptly. Children are not allowed to play on playground equipment before and after school. External gates will be locked soon after 3.15pm, apart from the gate nearest the hall, which is left open for after school club pick ups.

## **P.E**

Getting changed for P.E is a key part of children becoming independent. We are therefore asking that all P.E kits are once again brought into school for children to get changed into on the days they have lessons planned.

## **Lunchtimes and Break Times**

Children will once again be eating together in the Hall and playing with other year groups.

## **Worship and Assembly**

During the last 18 months, whole school worship and any assemblies have been held on zoom. We know the importance of physically coming together as a whole school community and will once again be holding worship together in the hall. Whole school assemblies begin promptly at 9.05am, so it is most important that children arrive promptly at 8.50am to give teachers time to settle and register the children.

## **School Events and Clubs**

School events have changed dramatically over the last 18 months, with many meetings taking place virtually and many usual events being unable to take place in the normal way. As we move through the autumn term we will be keeping you fully informed of any school events and clubs we are able to hold.

## **Key Control Measures**

During the last 18 months, school has functioned very successfully and is now confident and experienced in working in the pandemic. As school reopens in September 2021 we will continue to have key control measures in place to prevent transmission of the virus which are in line with Government guidance.

Key Government Advice on control measure	Key school control measures
<b>1.Ensure good hygiene for everyone</b>	
<p><b>Hand hygiene</b></p> <p>Frequent and thorough hand cleaning should now be regular practice. You should continue to ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser.</p>	<p>All children to clean hands on entry to school and at key points during the day including break times and lunch times by washing with soap and water or using hand sanitiser.</p> <p>School ensures adequate supplies of soap and hand sanitiser are available.</p> <p>Hygiene rules to be discussed with children regularly and posters displayed around school.</p>
<p><b>Respiratory Hygiene</b></p> <p>The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important.</p>	<p>The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach is promoted in school and discussed with children.</p> <p>Tissues are available and all children are briefed on procedures for blowing noses and disposal of waste. Lidded bins are provided in each area for waste disposal.</p> <p>Children are briefed on the importance of behaviour and school rules are revisited with all classes.</p>
<p><b>Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)</b></p> <p>Most staff in schools will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work. The guidance on the use of <a href="#">PPE in education, childcare and children's social care settings provides</a> more information on the use of PPE for COVID-19.</p>	<p>All staff in school have access to PPE as required and will use in line with government guidance.</p>
<b>2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents</b>	
<p>You should put in place and maintain an appropriate cleaning schedule. This should include regular cleaning of areas and equipment (for example, twice per day), with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.</p> <p><a href="#">PHE has published guidance on the cleaning of non-healthcare settings.</a></p>	<p>Each classroom has its own cleaning materials and can access them from the cleaners' office on the infant corridor. Surfaces are cleaned both during the day and at the end of each day.</p> <p>Cleaning procedures include regular cleaning of touch points.</p> <p>Deep cleaning is carried out during school breaks.</p>

<b>3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated</b>	
<p>When your school is in operation, it is important to ensure it is well ventilated and that a comfortable teaching environment is maintained.</p> <p>Refer to <a href="#">Simple steps to Good Ventilation</a> and the <a href="#">Ventilation Checklist</a></p>	<p>All rooms in the school have windows, which are opened to create air flow and ventilation. Windows and internal doors will be left open during lessons. Windows will also be fully opened when classrooms are unoccupied to fully refresh the air.</p> <p>Ventilation is also improved through opening external doors to refresh the air. At these times, increased consideration will be given to security of the building. All doors and windows will be closed at the end of the day.</p> <p>Any areas of school where there is poor ventilation will be identified and concerns addressed by the Premises Manager (Headteacher).</p>
<b>4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19</b>	
<p>Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to isolate and what to do. They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine). If anyone in school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they will be sent home and they should follow public health advice.</p>	<p>School will continue to work within Government guidance regarding Covid-19. In particular the following procedures are in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twice-weekly asymptomatic staff testing, to be reviewed at the end of September</li> <li>• Isolation and testing of symptomatic members of the school community</li> <li>• Regular updates and reminders to parents of Covid-19 symptoms and school and government procedures</li> <li>• Children do not attend school with Covid-19 symptoms</li> </ul>

### **Outbreak Management Plan**

In the case of a Covid-19 outbreak it may be necessary to revert to a different school organisation once again. These procedures would be similar to those we have worked in during the last 18 months, so parents and children should feel confident and at ease with them. Any procedures within this aspect of our management plan will be adapted to meet the needs of our children following ongoing risk assessments and changes in government and DfE guidance.