



## **The School Day FAQs**

### **1. What will the arrangements be for pickups and drop offs at the start and end of the school day?**

The start and end of the school day will be staggered across year groups to avoid playground congestion. In the morning pupils should arrive no more than 5 minutes before their designated start time and join their class line. Pupils should be encouraged to enter the school playgrounds without adults. Adults should leave and collect pupils at the school gates rather than entering the school grounds. We would also ask all parents to respect social distancing rules and to avoid lingering. Any pupil who arrives late to school should come to the front door where they will be met by office staff. There is a Handy Box at the front door of the school where parents can place any forgotten pupil belongings.

### **2. Why can all pupils not begin at 8.40am as normal?**

In line with government and EA guidelines, pupils cannot mix with others outside of their class bubble. Therefore, each year group has their own designated start time to ensure sufficient space in the playground and to allow all pupils to enter the school as safely as possible. While we appreciate that these staggered times may cause inconvenience to families, we would ask all parents to respect their child's allocated start time as we comply with guidelines.

### **3. I am concerned that the school gate areas will become very busy at the beginning and end of the school day.**

We are aware that a large volume of pupils need dropped off and collected from the gates each day. We are hoping that staggering start and finish times will significantly reduce the number of adults at the school gates at any one time. Parents are advised to only approach the school gates at the designated times and to leave straight away upon collection of their child. This will hopefully avoid overcrowding. We are lucky that we have 2 school gates for access and we encourage parents to only use the gate closest to their child's assigned playground area. We would also ask parents to avoid cutting through school grounds from one gate to another.

### **4. Will Acorns wraparound still be running in the school?**

Prior to Covid we had partnered with Acorns Daycare Services to provide wraparound care in school. Unfortunately, Acorns are currently unable to work in our school building due to mixing class bubbles. However, they are still able to offer

wraparound care by collecting pupils at the end of the school day and taking them to the Acorn premises. This is possible as Acorns are a separate facility and have their own Covid-19 procedures in place. We are hopeful that we will be offer full wraparound from our school building again in the not too distant future.

### **5. What about Free School Meals?**

Free school meals are an entitlement and therefore will continue to be provided. Where possible pupils will receive their meals in the dining hall. Where this is not possible for social distancing reasons, meals will be delivered by canteen staff to pupils in their classroom. Dinner numbers will be collected at the beginning of each school day as usual. School dinner menus will be regularly updated on the Facebook page for parents to see in advance.

### **6. What about other School Meals?**

Unfortunately, at this time, we are only able to offer school dinners to pupils entitled to free school meals. We will extend this service as soon as it is possible to do so. Other pupils should bring a packed lunch to school in a wipeable lunch box/bag. Packed lunches will be eaten in the classroom or the dinner hall, depending on each class's allocated lunch space.

### **7. Why can my child not bring a school bag?**

In an attempt to reduce transmissions and materials being passed between home and school we are asking that pupils do not bring a school bag into school. Each pupil should bring in a wipe clean pencil case at the beginning of the year, with their own stationary inside. This is to be kept in school. The only other items your child should bring to school are a wipeable lunch box/bag, a filled, reusable water bottle and a coat if needed. Seesaw will be the main form of communication between teachers and parents, reducing the need for paper notes. Homework will also be shared and completed online.

### **8. How will break time and lunch time work?**

Pupils will have staggered break and lunch times. Pupils will eat their break in their classrooms as normal and each class will have an allocated break and lunch time in a designated playground zone, supervised by staff from their own classroom, avoiding the mixing of bubbles. As there is less movement in the class than normal an afternoon outdoor break has also been scheduled into the day for each class.

### **9. What about classroom layouts and equipment?**

In KS1 and KS2 pupil desks have been spaced out in rows across the classroom, with 2 pupils to each desk. While pupils within a class bubble do not technically need to distance anymore, this spacing allows for some distancing to be maintained. It also reduces face to face contact for prolonged periods. In the Foundation Stage pupils

have remained in table groups of 4 or 6 as the nature of their learning requires more movement and group work.

Pupils are encouraged to stay 2 metres from adults in the room where possible, and teachers and classroom assistants have their own designated classroom areas. Pupil desks, door handles, light switches and other classroom fittings will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. Classroom resources will also be frequently washed and will be used individually where possible. Pupils should use their own stationary and avoid sharing with others.

#### **10. What about consistency of teacher personnel?**

These are obviously uncertain times and teaching and support staff may be required to self-isolate at various points. We hope, however, that the measures we are taking will keep our staff and pupils as safe as possible, and that we will avoid multiple staff being absent at any one time. If teachers are required to self-isolate, then substitute teachers will be used and will remain with their class bubble within the school.