



Randwick Primary School: Resilience, Passion, Success

Randwick Church of England Primary School
The Lane, Randwick, Stroud, Glos. GL6 6HL
Tel: 01453 762773 Headteacher: Mr David Poad



Friday 10th July, 2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

Returning to school in September

I want to give you as much information as I can (hence the long letter!) before the end of term so you have time to ask questions and discuss any concerns with me before we break up next Friday. You can of course also email me over the summer. As I'm sure you know, we are updated with advice from a variety of sources almost daily and things change, but the information below is based on the Government's most current advice sent a week ago:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

Essentially, schools have been asked to minimise the number of contacts that a child has during the school day as part of implementing the system of controls outlined in the guidance to reduce the risk of transmission. By following the guidance we can be confident we are managing the risk effectively. I will be working on an updated risk assessment next week, based on a model from the Local Authority, and will post this on our website on the Coronavirus page.

Managing Confirmed Cases

We have been told that we must send home those people who have been in close contact with anyone who has tested positive, and advise them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. Because of the size of our school, the use of one set of toilets, and the number of siblings we have throughout the school, we would close the whole school for 14 days if a child or member of staff contracted COVID-19. Whilst we will be maintaining 4 bubbles, we cannot ensure that children are not passing on any infection because of the factors stated above. I would take advice from Public Health England with regard to all other positive cases of people **associated** with children or staff (eg not the children or staff themselves, but other people in contact with them, such as family members) and hopefully limit the number of staff and children having to self-isolate.

Should a child present with any of the symptoms of COVID-19, we will take their temperature using an infrared thermometer, and isolate them if we believe they may have COVID-19, with a member of staff wearing PPE, and will contact carers so they can come and collect them.

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Classes

We will do our best to keep the children together in their four classes ('bubbles') to reduce contact between children and try to ensure children in Buzzards, Kestrels and Sparrowhawk classes do not face each other when learning in class, but we can't enforce this all the time, and certainly in Owl class this is not possible without diminishing their experience of school (which we won't be doing).

Teachers will stay with their classes except when they have planning, preparation and assessment time (PPA) which will be covered by Mrs Chastney or myself in most cases.

Hygiene measures

There will be sinks in every class, and we also have double sinks in the toilets. Children will wash their hands with soap on entering the school from outside, after using the toilet and before lunch.

There will be hand sanitiser dispensers in every classroom for children to use after eating.

There are posters above all the sinks with clear instructions about how to wash properly and staff will teach the children again at the start of term and remind them weekly so that it becomes routine and habitual. Every class will have tissues and bins with lids so children can 'catch it, bin it, kill it'.

The school is cleaned daily by a cleaner and rubbish is removed. Sharing resources between bubbles will be kept to a minimum, and if this does happen, these resources will be cleaned.

Lunchtimes

School dinners will start again on Monday 7th July and you can order hot, freshly cooked dinners online now in the usual way. We will continue with staggered dinner times (1200 Owls, 1215 Buzzards, 1230 Kestrels and Hawks (children having hot dinners in Hawks will eat at 1245). We will wipe tables down before and after each sitting, both in the hall and in class. The children will rotate around the playground which will be zoned so that each bubble plays in one space: the netball court, the trim trail and Reading Shed, the bank and clamber stack, and the Forest School area.

Start and finish times

We will continue with **staggered starts** (Hawks 0830 – 0840, Kestrels 0845 – 0855, in straight away through the back door; Buzzards 0840 – 0845 and Owls 0850 - 0855 collected from outside the gate by their teacher) and **pick -up** (Owls 1510 and Buzzards 1520 from outside the front gate,

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Kestrels 1510 and Sparrowhawks 1520 from the large playground). It will minimise the risk of passing on infection if only one parent or nominated carer collects and arrives within the time slot. Please space out along the wall to allow for social distancing.

Breakfast club

This will now be in the hall, from 0800, with children sitting in class groups on separate tables facing one way. Mrs Chastney will continue to manage the Breakfast Club. We are working on a pre-booking system for this to help us manage numbers more effectively and we will forward details soon. This will start from Monday 7th September.

Attendance

The Government have made it clear that all children are expected to return to school in September, unless we experience a spike locally and are locked down. If this is the case, we will be ready to continue with home-learning using Google Classroom and Tapestry (for EYFS children) as our learning platform. It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on their education, wellbeing and wider development. Missing out on more time in the classroom risks children falling further behind. From September, we will continue to follow our Attendance Policy, which you can access via our website.

Curriculum

The first three days after the holidays will be spent working on re-connecting children with school and friends: we have Forest School, PE, mindfulness, yoga and team building planned, as well as time in class with teachers getting to know each other. Children will need a packed lunch on these three days.

In the following week, we will start the curriculum as normal (and school dinners), and adapt our teaching to meet the needs of children. Ongoing assessments will enable us to identify gaps in learning and put in place support to enable children to catch-up. There are many resources being produced to support schools with catch-up which we will access as needs be.

After School Club

There will be no school based clubs running for the first half term.

Cashes Green Kids Clubs are unable to offer care for children after school at the moment, but we are able to offer an alternative in the short term on site. Liisa Newton, who has provided after-school care for many parents over many years, has kindly agreed to look after children using our

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hall, toilets and outside space. When not outside (which she hopes to be for much of the time) she will keep the children in their separate bubbles in the hall, as at breakfast club. Parents will be able to book and pay in advance. This after-school club will run from Monday 7th September. Details to follow.

Other Information

- We will still meet each morning for Collective Worship via zoom.
- There will be minimal visitors in first half term but our Governors and School Improvement Partner will support us in monitoring our work. Please continue to ring or email if you need to contact us about anything.
- There will be no Randwick Runway or after-school clubs in the first half term, but we hope to start these after half term.
- Our Fun Run will take place on Friday but separately in classes.
- Children should wear their full uniform as normal except on Fridays when children can wear their school PE kits (Randwick badged t-shirt or dark blue plain t-shirt, dark shorts and daps/trainers).
- Carrie will continue to deliver Forest School sessions to all children. Owl class children and those in year 1 will have a weekly session on a Wednesday morning and children in years 2 – 6 will spend half a term with Carrie on a Wednesday afternoon, as a single year group. Year 2s will start with these Wednesday afternoon sessions in September.
- All our children will have PE on a Friday, and Jay, our Atlas Sports Coach, will be leading PE sessions with Mrs Chastney for our Sparrowhawk children at this time.
- Our new Owl class children start with us on the Monday after the rest of the school return, on a phased timetable.

Sorry to bombard you with information and I hope this all makes sense. Please remember that we need your co-operation to ensure that risks to children and staff are minimised and consequently we shall continue to strictly adhere to our home-school agreement, a revised copy of which will be sent to you before the start of term.

Many thanks for your ongoing support, it is very much appreciated by everyone here.

Best wishes

David Poad