



Re-opening the school – Guide for Parents and Carers

This information is to guide and support the safe start to the new academic year. I have endeavoured to give as much detail available, at this time and as things stand currently. I hope that this will aid you and your child to feel as comfortable and confident as possible, in spite of the very unusual situation. In addition to the FAQs (see below), you are being sent a Pupil Pack and Home-School agreement. The latter does not need to be signed and returned, but in sending your child to school, we shall take this as your agreement to the statements in the document. One of the first activities, which the children will be doing with the others in their bubble, will be reading the information in their pack, going through the expectations and signing their part of the Home-School Agreement. It would help if you have had a chance to look at these with your child, before their return to school.

This is the plan for a phased return to school:

Year 5	Monday 7 th September
Year 6	Wednesday 9 th September
Year 7	Thursday 10 th September
Year 8	Thursday 10 th September

The above plan allows for Year 5 pupils to have two full transition days prior to the rest of the school returning; they have not had the usual transition programme this year. It also enables each year group to have the induction which they deserve, following what has been, for many, a lengthy period of time away from school. There are many new procedures and expectations to share with each cohort before we begin delivering the curriculum.

Everybody's experience of lockdown will have been personal to them. If there is anything that you feel we should know, as a school staff, in terms of your child's experience, anxieties or concerns, there will be an opportunity to share this with us via a questionnaire that you will receive in due course. This information can then be shared with your child's Bubble Leader and all relevant staff. You will have already been informed of your child's form class; the form class, will be your child's bubble.

Our priority is the safety of the children, the staff and everyone's families. Some of the measures that we need to put in place may seem extreme and a great many of them are completely alien to all of us, within the school setting. However, please know that each and every measure has been carefully considered and is being enforced with the prime aim of safety first. It is for this reason that I urge families to do all they can to adhere to the social distancing rules, hand washing advice and other safety measures, at all times. Our school plan will only be effective and the Fulbrook family will only be protected as much as it possibly can be, if everyone involved within and beyond the school gates follows the rules.

You are entrusting us with your child; we, in turn, are putting our trust in you to play your part.

We look forward to welcoming your child back to school. Thank you, in advance, for your support and cooperation.

Best wishes,

Samantha Clancy, Headteacher



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FAQs

1. How will my child be grouped?

In Form bubbles/Year Group bubbles. Children will not mix across Year group bubbles.

2. Will children be required to bring equipment to and from school?

No. They will need a fully equipped pencil case, a reading book and their planner, which will be left at school each day. Class notebooks will be used to record any homework set from September. On the days when children have PE, they are required to attend wearing their PE kit for the day.

3. Will children be notified of their Form Bubble before they return to school?

Pupils should already know which form bubble they are in. Pupils will be sent an email to their school email address as confirmation. Due to GDPR laws, we are unable to supply details of the other children in their bubble.

4. Will children use a specific entrance to the school?

Yes. They will be using one of two entrances: Years 7 and 8 will use Burrows Close. Years 5 and 6 pupils will use the main pupil entrance on Weathercock Lane.

ALL pupils using school buses will use the main pupil gate on Weathercock Lane

5. Will I be able to come into school and talk face to face with a teacher?

If you need to come onto the school site, you will need to make an appointment. Wherever possible communications will take place via email, telephone or video calls using Microsoft Teams.

6. How do I report my child's absence?

Please contact the school via telephone (01908 582022) and select the pupil absence option.

7. Will there be any extra-curricular provision?

There will be no breakfast, lunch or afterschool clubs, until further notice.

8. Can my child wear a face mask?

Pupils are permitted to wear face masks during the day if they wish.

The current government guidance regarding the wearing of face masks in school is that pupils and staff do not need to wear one while at school.

If a pupil wishes to wear a disposable face mask on the way to school, a bin will be situated near the entrance for the masks. For pupils wearing re-usable facemasks to school, pupils need to bring a



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sealable plastic bag to put it in and put inside their own school bag (they must not to be left hanging around their neck) whilst on school premises.

If your child is required to wear a face mask for medical reasons, please contact us so that an individual risk assessment can be carried out.

9. What are the timings of the day?

Children will be able to access the school site from 8:20 and will begin to be dismissed from 15:15 each day. Pupils will receive 5 lessons a day. Each lesson will be an hour long. For further details on the structure of the day, please refer to the pupil pack.

10. Uniform/PE kit?

Pupils will be required to wear full school uniform when they return in September. On the days that a pupil has PE they will be permitted to wear their PE kit for the day; the PE Changing rooms will not be in use. It will be helpful if your child has waterproof clothing in school. Please see the pupil pack for further information.

11. Will teachers working with pupils in a particular bubble remain separate from pupils in other bubbles?

No – teachers will move between different groups and bubbles. The DfE guidance states: “All teachers and other staff can operate across different classes and year groups in order to facilitate the delivery of the school timetable. This will be particularly important for secondary schools. Where staff need to move between classes and year groups, they should try and keep their distance from pupils and other staff as much as they can, ideally 2 metres from other adults.”

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

At Fulbrook, wherever possible, it is an expectation that adults maintain a two-metre distance from everyone – adults and pupils alike.

Staff will remain with their form bubble for much of the day/week, where this is possible. However, it is a priority to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum, led by subject specialist teachers. It is for this reason that there will be movement of adults between bubbles.

12. Will the school have an alternative plan in case, for any reason such as a renewed local lockdown, full opening cannot take place at the beginning of September? If so, what is it?

Yes – it is likely that we shall be expected to offer in-school provision for children of critical workers and the most vulnerable, with blended learning (which is a combination of home learning and in-school provision) for all other pupils. This might have to be on a rota basis.

13. Will my child be sitting a baseline assessment?



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Pupils will not immediately be tested on their return to Fulbrook. Time will be taken in lessons to judge gaps in knowledge and allow pupils to settle into the new way of school life.

14. Which subjects will be on the timetable?

All subjects offered at Fulbrook will be delivered (with the exception of drama). The curriculum has been adapted to meet current safety measures in place. Many practical elements of subjects have been suspended. For example, children will not be able to cook during Food Technology lessons.

15. Will the lay out of classrooms be adapted and furniture removed in order to increase distance between staff and pupils and between staff and other staff?

Yes – classroom tables and chairs to be set up in rows facing forwards. Teachers will remain at their desk/front of classroom to maintain a safe social distance from pupils.

16. Does my child have to return to school?

Yes. The government has stated that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time, from the beginning of the autumn term, unless your child is shielding.

Please see details below taken from the government's Guidance for full opening: schools, 2nd July 2020

Pupils who are shielding or self-isolating

We now know much more about coronavirus (COVID-19) and so in future there will be far fewer children and young people advised to shield whenever community transmission rates are high. Therefore, the majority of pupils will be able to return to school. You should note however that:

- a small number of pupils will still be unable to attend in line with public health advice because they are self-isolating and have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves; or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)
- shielding advice for all adults and children will pause on 1 August, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can also return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding. Read the [current advice on shielding](#)
- if rates of the disease rise in local areas, children (or family members) from that area, and that area only, will be advised to shield during the period where rates remain high and therefore, they may be temporarily absent (see below).
- some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school (usually at their next planned clinical appointment). You can find more advice from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health at [COVID-19 - 'shielding' guidance for children and young people](#).

Where a pupil is unable to attend school because they are complying with clinical and/or public health advice, we expect schools to be able to immediately offer them access to remote education. Schools should monitor engagement with this activity (as set out in the section below).

Where children are not able to attend school as parents are following clinical and/or public health advice, absence will not be penalised.



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Any absence will need to be reported as soon as possible, if your child has any Covid symptoms you must follow the government's guidance (see below).

Prevention

1. Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school

Ensuring that pupils, staff and other adults do not come into the school if they have [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#), or have tested positive in the last 7 days, and ensuring anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home, are essential actions to reduce the risk in schools and further drive down transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). All schools must follow this process and ensure all staff are aware of it.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age and needs of the child, with appropriate adult supervision if required. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.

If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom must be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.

PPE must be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs). More information on PPE use can be found in the [safe working in education, childcare and children's social care settings, including the use of personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#) guidance.

If a child in a boarding school shows symptoms, they should initially self-isolate in their residential setting household. Most children will benefit from self-isolating in their boarding house so that their usual support can continue. Others will benefit more from self-isolating in their family home. For more information on how to care for a symptomatic child while protecting the welfare of other pupils and staff, read the [guidance on isolation for residential educational settings](#).

As is usual practice, in an emergency, call 999 if someone is seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. Anyone with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms should not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.

Any members of staff who have helped someone with symptoms and any pupils who have been in close contact with them do not need to go home to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms themselves (in which case, they should arrange a test) or if the symptomatic person subsequently tests positive (see below) or they have been requested to do so by NHS Test and Trace.



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Everyone must wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with soap and running water or use hand sanitiser after any contact with someone who is unwell. The area around the person with symptoms must be cleaned with normal household bleach after they have left to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people. See the [COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings guidance](#).

Public Health England is clear that routinely taking the temperature of pupils is not recommended as this is an unreliable method for identifying coronavirus (COVID-19).

Please see the additional documents and a link to the Government's guidance for full opening: Schools, 2nd

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#section-2-school-operations>

- Home-School Agreement
- Pupil Pack