

Ashmead Primary School

<https://myashmead.org>

20th July 2020

Plans for September

This newsletter explains key information about our plan to fully open this September. We will explain some of this in more detail towards the end of the holidays (e.g. some pictorial information about how drop-off and pick-up will work) and other information will be sent out during the holidays or at the beginning of the new term. We have tried here to give parents the most important elements of our plan to open safely for all children this September.



Thank you to the 101 families who filled in our survey.

We have looked at the data and comments and fed them into our decision-making.

What guidance are schools following?

Government advice says that schools must implement a 'system of controls'. This is grouped into 'prevention' and 'response to any infection'. Here are some key examples of what we will do:

Prevention

- We will continue to make sure staff and children, who have coronavirus symptoms or share a household with someone who does, do not attend school.
- We will continue to have good systems for ensuring thorough and frequent cleaning/sanitising of hands.
- We will continue to use the 'catch it - bin it - kill it' approach to coughs and sneezes.
- We will continue to clean frequently touched surfaces more frequently.
- We will continue to minimise contact between people and maintain social distancing where this is possible.

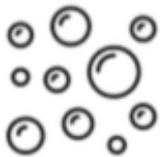
Response to any infection

- We will use the NHS Test and Trace process.
- We will manage confirmed cases of COVID-19 among the school community by seeking advice from the local health protection team.

TEST

TRACE

Bubbles and Social Distancing



- Children and staff will still be in 'bubbles' so that the number of people they have contact with is minimised.
- From September bubbles can be class-sized or year-group-sized. We will confirm what we are doing for two-form year groups before the start of term.

- We will timetable play and lunch so that bubbles do not mix. Each bubble will have its own play equipment.
- Children and staff will distance from each other as much as is possible (dependent on numbers of children, space inside a classroom and the age and needs of individual children.)
- Children will use individual resources where possible.
- Where age appropriate, children will sit facing the front to minimise risk of transmission.



Travel to and from School

We encourage all families to walk, scoot or cycle to school if possible. Avoiding public transport use as well as driving

is ideal in the current circumstances.

If families could fill in this travel survey for Lewisham it would be helpful:

<https://bit.ly/3hgEkvB>

Lewisham are in the process of choosing some 'school streets'. This would mean a road near a school entrance being inaccessible to cars around drop-off and pick-up time. If Ashmead Road is chosen we will let you know as soon as possible.

How will Covid testing work?

If your child, or any member of your household has Covid symptoms, you MUST self isolate as a family, and book a test as soon as possible.

You can arrange a test at: <https://bit.ly/3jjkPEu> or by calling 119.

Current recognised symptoms are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of taste or smell.

Your child, and any siblings, cannot return until you know the outcome of the test. You will need to share the outcome of the test with the school as soon as possible. Tests have come back very quickly over the last few weeks (all negative!).



Drop-off and Pick-Up arrangements from September



We are planning staggered start and finish times to keep groups apart as much as possible when they arrive and leave school. A staggered day should support better social distancing between families and limit congestion whilst parents wait to drop off/pick up their children. As with all our 2020-21 plans, this will be kept under review and any modifications or changes will be dependent on how successful this system is.

Each 'bubble' will be given a designated entrance to enter the school premises as well as an allocated exit. These may or may not be the same for entry/exit. Each entrance will be given a colour and before September we will communicate which ones your child/children should use.

Start times - these are soft start times, your child can arrive any time during their year group time slot:

9.00 - 9.15: Years 4, 5 and 6. *NB: If you would like your child in Y5/6 to walk to and from school by themselves, please complete the relevant permission slip which we will add to Parentmail before September.*

9.15 - 9.30: Years 3, 2 and 1

9.30: EYFS (Reception and Nursery)

Finish times - these are precise pick up times. To release children safely it is essential that parents are on time to pick up and then leave the area promptly:

3.15: Year 1 and Year 4

3.20: Year 2 and Year 5

3.25: Year 3 and Year 6

3.30: EYFS (Reception and Nursery)

First day of term for Y1 - Y6 - Monday 7th September:

On the first day of term we will have a longer time to stagger in and settle the children back to school. This will also give us the chance to tweak any problems that might arise on that day before the children in EYFS start from Tuesday 8th September.

9.00 - 9.20: Years 4, 5 and 6.

9.20 - 9.40: Years 3, 2 and 1

For the first day of term, parents are asked to wait with siblings or to come at the end of one session/beginning of the next to minimise waiting times.

Siblings:

From Tuesday 8th September, if you have children in more than one year group then the older sibling is welcome to bring the younger sibling in to school at their time. For example a Y4 child could bring in their Y1 sibling between 9am and 9.15am. The exception to this is whilst EYFS children are settling. During this time, EYFS children should be brought into the school grounds by a parent (settling and goodbyes will be done in the outdoor areas).



These times are the provisional start and end times, we might need to extend or shorten the staggered times depending on how successfully the new system rolls out.

Lunch arrangements

Lunch times will be staggered for each bubble over the middle of the day. Each bubble will either eat in the hall or in their classroom and will also have some time with their bubble outdoors in the playground. In September, we are planning to continue the lunch model we have adopted this term where the kitchen staff prepare packed lunches for those that have a school lunch.

Alternatively, parents can provide their own packed lunch from home if they prefer. The cost of a school packed lunch is the usual meal rate (£2.30 per day), which can be paid by ParentPay.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are ALL entitled to a free lunch as part of the government's Universal Infants Free School Meals (UIFSM) offer. We are hoping to return to a hot meal service by October.



Curriculum, Catch Up and Contingency Plans

- We aim to teach a broad and ambitious curriculum from September.
- We will assess children's learning early on so that our plan to address gaps in their knowledge and skills is as comprehensive as possible.
- Rather than not teaching subjects we aim to maximise the reinforcement of core skills (e.g. reading) across the curriculum.
- As well as prioritising helping children to catch up through using our existing resources, we will use the flexibility offered by extra government funding too (there is not enough clarity to say exactly how this will work at this stage).

- We are timetabling each class to have as much time outdoors as possible.
- We will share more on our contingency plans (e.g. in relation to a second spike nationally or locally or for children who need to self-isolate) before September. These will spell out how we will provide good quality remote learning in the future and where this provision might differ from our current offer, e.g. providing printed resources for children who struggle to get online access.