



Hurst Green C of E Primary and Nursery School  
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Dear Parents and Carers,

### **COVID-19 Recovery Arrangements Term 6**

On 11th May the Government announced that from 1st June (earliest), primary schools should welcome back children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, alongside priority groups.

We have been working hard at Hurst Green to ensure compliance with the latest guidelines and feel that it is important to be completely transparent with parents as to what our school provision could look like for those cohorts of children. Please bear in mind that the guidelines are changing all the time and we will constantly review our practice to reflect them.

It will not look like a normal school day and your child/children should also be aware of the expectations and changes that they may encounter. Your child may not have their normal teacher or be in their normal classroom.

The following measures will be put in place to comply with guidelines, whilst attempting effective infection protection and control. Whilst we will do everything we can in order to reduce the risk of transmission of infection and create an inherently safer system, we cannot guarantee anyone's safety.

#### **Class groups, social distancing & supervision**

The government recognises that primary school children (especially the youngest) cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff at all times. Therefore to reduce contact between people and minimize transmission risk, these classes will be split into smaller groups; a maximum 15 pupils per group for Reception, Year 1 and 6, a ratio of 1:6 in the nursery. Where we can, we will aim to ensure that at least the older children within those small groups are mindful of keeping 2 metres away from each other.

Each group will be allocated staff (teacher and teaching assistant) who will be responsible for leading that group – this may not be your child's current teacher/teaching assistant. Each group must be consistent (the same pupils and staff in a single group all day) and must stay away from other people and groups.

Nursery – Sheila, Katy and Lisa

Reception/Year 1 – Mrs Hart/Miss Bassett and Mrs Cruse

Year 1 and Keyworker Year 2 and 3 children – Miss Sparrow and Mrs Phillips

Keyworker/Vulnerable groups in Years 4 and 5 – Miss Hughes, Miss Golding and Mrs Jackson

Year 6 – Mrs Ivil and Mrs Clease

### **Learning environment & routines**

Classrooms will be adapted to maintain social distancing - desks will be spaced as far apart as possible; unnecessary items removed. Children in the school will be allocated a table that they will use for the rest of the term.

Soft furnishings, soft toys and toys that are hard to clean will also be removed (this will have a significant impact for the Reception and Nursery children). Groups will only have access to their allocated learning environment, toilets, the hall and outside space. At no time will any two groups mix.

The timetable is adapted so that break and lunch times are staggered to ensure that different groups are not moving around the school or on the playground/field at the same time. The children will be eating their lunches in their classrooms or the nursery.

Nursery children will stay in the nursery except when using the field or playground at designated times.

Some areas of the school such as the ICT suite will be out of use, as we have to limit shared resources and prevent the sharing of equipment including books. We will be unable to send home reading books as we are required to restrict the exchange of take-home resources.

Play equipment will be restricted due to the requirement to clean between groups of children. Multiple groups cannot use it simultaneously.

Children in school will be given their own individual stationary e.g. pencils and rulers, that will be kept on their desk. They will not be sharing with others.

Whilst the playground will be available (on a staggered-use basis), we will remove access to the play trail and picnic benches, as outdoor equipment cannot be used unless cleaned between groups of children and this is logistically impossible.

There will be no breakfast or after school provision as groups of children cannot be mixed.

### **Timetable**

At this time we are able to offer full time provision for all those children who will be returning to school on the 1st June. If numbers increase, to ensure that class sizes remain below 15 pupils, the hours that children attend may have to be reduced. The priority for places has been set by the government and is detailed as below:

- Children of critical workers and vulnerable children

- Nursery, reception and Year 1 children

If you are in one of the above groups and decide you would like your child to return to school please let us know by emailing the office and we will let you know when your child can start. This is so we can organise classes so they adhere to the safety guidelines.

### **Home-School Learning**

Teachers will continue to set the weekly home learning as normal and communicate that to all parents. Mrs Stelfox will take over the home learning for Maple Class as Miss Hughes will be teaching in the day. Children at school will be taking part in a wide variety of activities with a strong focus on Mental Health and Wellbeing.

### **PPE**

According to Government guidelines, the wearing of a face covering or face mask in schools is not recommended. However, should a child become unwell with symptoms whilst at school and need direct personal care until they can return home, staff are required to wear PPE if the supervising adult cannot maintain a distance of 2 metres from the child.

### **Shielding & Clinically Vulnerable children**

If your child is classed as clinically extremely vulnerable, they are advised to shield and must not attend school. See the following guidance for clarity:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremelyvulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-personsfrom-covid-19>

### **Living with a Shielded or Clinically Vulnerable person**

If your child lives with someone who is clinically vulnerable, (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), they can attend school. See the following for clarity:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/full-guidance-on-staying-at-home-and-away-fromothers/full-guidance-on-staying-at-home-and-away-from-others>

If your child lives in a household with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable we do not expect those children to attend as we cannot guarantee that stringent-enough social distancing can be adhered to.

### **School Dinners**

Chartwells will be providing food for children but at the time of sending this letter were unable to clarify what the menu will be. We will update you as soon as we are informed.

### **Cleaning and Hygiene**

In accordance with government guidance we will continue to ensure that children wash their hands for more than 20 seconds at regular intervals throughout the day including when they arrive at

school, after sneezing/coughing, after being out of the classroom and before eating and drinking. In addition to this we have plenty of anti-bac gel.

All doors will be held open so that handles do not have to be used. All the classrooms will have cleaning supplies available so that desks and chairs can be cleaned during the day. Key touch points e.g. handrails, banisters, light switches, taps, sinks, door locks in toilets will be cleaned during the day.

Where possible children will use the toilet at their break or lunchtime, to minimise the risk of groups mixing. Only one child will be able to use the toilet at a time, boys will only use the cubical to allow the door to the toilets to be kept open.

### **What will happen if someone becomes unwell**

The following information is taken from the government documentation.

If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature in an education or childcare setting, they must be sent home and advised to follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#).

If a child is awaiting collection due to showing symptoms, they will be moved to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, with appropriate adult supervision. If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, the bathroom will be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.

PPE will 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). In an emergency, 999 will be called if they are seriously ill or injured - or their life is at risk.

### **What will happen if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus**

As before the information below is taken from the government guidelines.

When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and students attending the school will be informed and will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and will be encouraged to get tested in this scenario.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the cohort or in the wider setting, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise schools and other settings on the most appropriate action to take. In

some cases a larger number of other children may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole class, site or year group. As groups of children will not mix whilst in school the closure of the whole setting should not generally be necessary.

### **How to get tested for coronavirus**

All children and members of their household who are eligible to return to school will have access to testing if they display symptoms of coronavirus. To access testing parents will be able to use the 111 service **online** coronavirus service if your child is over 5. If your child is under 5 you should call 111.

### **Protocols for parents**

- Different groups will have staggered start/end times.
- Only ONE parent is to bring their child to school
- Children will be met at the gate by a member of staff. Parents are requested to leave their child then if possible. Parents of children in Reception and Year 1 can walk their children on to the playground but will not be allowed into the classroom.
- Nursery parents can take children into the nursery playground but are not allowed into the nursery.
- There will be observance of social distancing guidelines at drop off and collection times to minimise adult to adult contact.
- Parents cannot gather at entrance gates or doors, children must not be left on their own in front of the school before their start time.
- It is recommended that any unnecessary travel on buses is avoided (for those children who would ordinarily take the public bus). Please see the recently published Safer Travel Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

To ensure that social distancing can be adhered to your child's start and finish time at school will be different. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but it is to ensure the safety of all. Please arrive promptly at the times below to drop off and pick up your child.

Nursery 9am start 3 pm finish

Reception and Year 1, Keyworker and Vulnerable Groups in Years 2 and 3 9.10am start 3.20pm finish

Year 6 8.50am start 3.10pm finish

Keyworker and Vulnerable Groups in Years 4 and 5 8.40 am start 2.50pm finish

**Attendance**

You will not be penalised for not sending your child back to school if they are in one of the eligible groups. If your child is returning from 1<sup>st</sup> June and your child will not be attending on a particular day we ask you to contact the school as you normally would.

As I stated at the beginning of this letter, the information is accurate at the time of writing. As I'm sure you are aware the guidelines are changing frequently. If any information in the letter changes we will advise you.

Kind regards,

**Miss Flack****Head Teacher**