

Your child returning to school

WCC wants to help you prepare for a phased return to school. Together we can make sure that children have a smooth return to school.

Schools are planning to re-open gradually in the coming weeks.

Schools are preparing plans to put in place the necessary precautions.

You can help by checking the school's website and social media posts regularly for updates in the first instance. Alternatively, contact the school or the Family Information Service fis@warwickshire.gov.uk or call **01926 742274**.

Schools will only reopen for some pupils each day to reduce class sizes to maintain social distancing.

Some staff will not be available to come into schools.

You can help by explaining to your child that they might have a different teacher or adult helping them.

Children may work and play in small groups. They will stay with the same group and the same member of staff all day, through lessons, break and lunchtimes.

You can help by explaining to your child that it is important for them to get along with others and stay with the adult all the time.

Children will be washing their hands at regular intervals throughout the day.

Staff may supervise them as they wash their hands.

You can help by explaining to your child why this is important and practising how to wash their hands. You could also reinforce the following key messages with your child as often as possible:

- wash hands frequently and dry thoroughly.
- clean hands before and after eating and after sneezing or coughing
- encourage children not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose.
- use tissues or elbow to cough and sneeze.

Classrooms might look different. Desks might be reorganised to maintain social distancing between pupils. Pupils might be directed to sit at particular desks.

You can help by explaining to your child that this is important to reduce the spread of the virus.

Lessons might feel different, with less group work and more individual work. Where possible, lessons might be held outdoors.

You can help by making sure your child has waterproof outdoor clothing, suncream and a hat.



Children might not move around the school or building unless it is absolutely necessary. Classes might have different break times (including lunch), to reduce movement around school.

You can help by explaining to your child that they may not be able to use certain equipment or meet up with all of their usual friends at breaks and lunchtimes.

Some schools might change the uniform rules when children go back to school.

You can help reduce the spread of the virus by following your school's guidance around uniform.

School start and finish times might be different, with clear drop-off and collection times for each group or class of children.

You can help by not staying too long at pick-up and drop-off times, keeping to social distancing guidelines and walking to school as much as possible to reduce traffic.

Children might be feeling anxious about their return to school.

You can help by reassuring them that a teacher will be there to explain what they need to do.

If your child has symptoms of the virus during the school day, you will be contacted and expected to take your child home straight away. All other pupils in the same group will also be sent home.

Please help us by collecting your child promptly. Reassure your child if they are worried.

**For more information contact the parent helpline on:
01926 742274.**

