



BROAD CHALKE C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Amanda Brockway

Chair of Governors: Mrs Louise Hall



25th August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are well and are managing a little break over the summer. I just wanted to make contact to remind you about arrangements for September.

Returning to / starting school in September

As you will be aware, there has now been guidance issued for the **FULL** re-opening of schools in September and we cannot wait to welcome everyone back including those new to our school! As a school, we have attempted to maintain a sense of normality, but with the recognition that things are different for us all. The first thing we ask of you, as parents, is to continue to communicate with us, and that, together, we follow the latest Government guidance summarised as follows:

'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.'

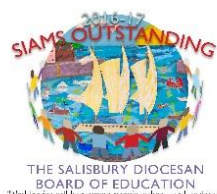
Ensuring that pupils, staff and other adults do not come into the school if they have [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#), or have tested positive in the last 7 days, and ensuring anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home, are essential actions to reduce the risk in schools 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 10 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.

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.' **Guidance for full opening: Schools (2nd July 2020).**

We ask you to please work with us over the next few months as we get the school up to running at full capacity. Attendance from September will be mandatory for all children. We totally recognise that for some children and adults, a return in September will be an anxious time. We will be doing our best to mitigate these issues. Being in a safe environment with friends, playing games and laughing is often enough to reset the equilibrium for the majority of our children.

As a school we are in the process of **carefully planning** for September for the reopening, ensuring that we do this as safely as possible, following the guidance that has been given to us by the DfE, Public Health England and also Wiltshire Council. **The safety of pupils and staff will be our primary concern in this planning process and will remain so throughout.** The attached guidance from Wiltshire Council will help with ideas about how to help to prepare your children for the full return to school.



Start Date

Children start back on **Wednesday 2nd September.**

School Uniform

Children should wear school uniform. However, we are prepared to be flexible such as children wearing non branded sweatshirts and wearing trainers as we understand that some families may have difficulty obtaining uniform and these items can be bought at many local supermarkets. Once PE days are known, it would help if children wore their PE kit to school for the day. If you would like to order items online with the school's logo, please go to

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/BroadChalkeCEAidedPrimarySchoolSP55DS>

Hygiene and Hand Sanitiser

Children **DO NOT** need to bring in their own hand sanitiser. As a school we have plenty of hand sanitiser in **ALL classrooms** as well as at stations around the school, including the lunch hall.

Children will be told to wash their hands and sanitise regularly throughout the day.

Our best defence against COVID19 remains **hand hygiene** and a '**catch it, bin it, kill it**' approach.

Children will not be required to wear masks at this stage.

Early Birds

We will be running Early Birds from 8 – 9am. However, places will need to be **pre-booked** and places will be limited. This also means that there will be one flat price which will be **£2.50 per session** for the 8am – 9am childcare regardless of what time the children arrive. This is still less than many other schools charge. **Parents will need to book the week before via ParentPay.** We will no longer be able to accept children turning up on the day with no pre-booking. Parents can book for a term in advance and the system is now live.

Getting to School

The local authority has asked schools to encourage parents to make other arrangements for travel to/from school other than school transport if possible. Also, if possible, please can parents and children walk or cycle to school to avoid congestion in the car park. If you have to drive, and I completely understand that many families have no option, please park at the sports centre if you can and enjoy a short walk to school.

Buses

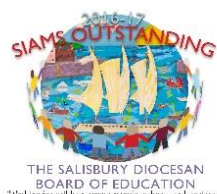
Our youngest pupils do find it quite daunting to travel to school by bus so if your child is in YR / Y1 please bear this in mind and avoid it if you can. On buses, children can sit near children from their class bubbles. In the mornings, please can parents help to ensure that older children sit near the back and the youngest children near the front as this will help with keeping children in their bubbles. There is no requirement for there to be social distancing on dedicated home/ school transport and no face masks are required. Parents have been advised about any changes to buses by Wiltshire Council.

Start and End Times

Children can enter classrooms from 8.50 until 9.00 and should be collected at 3.15pm. Instead of the children lining up on the playground, they will need to wait then line up outside of their classroom doors. Parents should not let their children play with children from other year groups whilst they are waiting. Please remember that drop off and collection (apart from bus children) will be from individual classroom doors and that **adults need to socially distance from staff and from other parents.**

Staff

Although the children will be in class bubbles, the guidance says that staff can move between bubbles. This is important in order for us to teach the whole curriculum and to be able to use our teaching assistants and midday supervisors across the school. Where possible, each class has been assigned a teacher(s) and teaching assistant(s) who will remain with that bubble. Where this is not possible, and a staff member does need to move between groups, then strict hand washing and social distancing will take place.



Classroom organisation and moving around school

From September, the idea is that children only mix in school within their bubbles. Bubbles are not really a precaution in the way that hand washing or cleaning are. We are well aware that sibling contact crosses bubbles. The idea of the bubble is a way to minimise and manage a swift and efficient shutdown in response to an outbreak. Public Health England would guide us about what to do and which bubbles to shut down in the event of this happening.

The children will be in their classroom bubble for lessons and will only be able to play with children in their own class bubble at playtimes and lunchtimes. We will have separate play areas to help the children to keep in their bubbles. This does mean that we will not be able to let classes mix or meet as a whole school for events or collective worship until the guidance changes.

What to bring to school

Schools are being advised to keep the number of things brought into school to a minimum. However, book bags, lunch boxes, drinks bottles, snacks and coats are ok to bring in. Please do not send in pencil cases as a box of equipment per child will be provided.

Music Lessons

The paid for music lessons can re-commence but the music teachers may have to reduce group size, only teach children together from the same class bubble and keep their distance from pupils.

Collective Worship

Our value this term is **thankfulness**. Collective worship will happen in each class bubble sometimes planned and led by the children. I am also going to lead collective worship in the hall but with a small number of classes at a time so that we still have celebration assemblies and a weekly theme. Unfortunately, at this stage, we are not able to invite parents to attend.

After school clubs

The government recognises that schools will need to build up their after school provision over time. Most paid for clubs will continue and details have been sent out about this by individual providers. They may limit their numbers and the year groups involved which may mean a slight increase in price. The free teacher run clubs will not run in the Autumn term 1 as teachers need to concentrate their efforts on making the statutory curriculum work and adapting to meet the needs of the children.

Class Trips and Residential

The guidance allows schools to make school day trips but not yet residential trips. However, we have made a provisional booking for our Y5 residential trip normally held in October to be held in March 2021 and for our Y6 residential trip to be held in May 2021.

Visitors / Parents / Parent Helpers in School

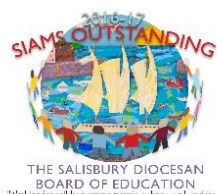
We will be keeping visitors into school at an absolute minimum for the safety of everyone.

Social Distancing for parents

Please can parents keep in mind that social distancing between adults should be respected on the school site. Therefore, please keep at least 1m away from other parents when dropping off / collecting your children. Also, please can I remind you that in order to reduce the number of people on site we ask that only one parent/carer accompanies their child / children to school. We are also asking parents not to come into school unless absolutely necessary. Where possible, please either email or telephone rather than having face to face contact with staff for the safety of everyone.

Pupil Premium

Many people have been affected by the current economic situation and may find that their circumstances have changed. If you think you may be eligible for pupil premium please follow this link:



School lunchtime arrangements and healthy snacks

The school kitchen will resume a full service. We have always staggered the sittings in the hall so this will continue. **Please book lunches on ParentPay.** Please remember that packed lunches should be healthy lunches and we have a 'no nuts' policy. There will be no school fruit until Tuesday 8th September so please provide your child with a healthy snack.

Children falling ill in school

If children fall ill in school, we have an isolation procedure. If the illness has COVID symptoms we have clear expectations for immediate collection, isolation at home and testing as explained on page 1 of this newsletter. An announcement has been made that schools will be issued with testing kits but we have no further information about this at present.

Cleaning

Our school is cleaned thoroughly every day and additional cleaning has been arranged. In younger classes, the staff will rotate and clean play equipment. All staff have been made aware of the need for extra cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and items.

Home Learning Contingency Plan

In the case of a local lockdown or bubble closure, teachers will revert to setting daily learning tasks by email. We ask that parents work with us by marking simple tasks and sending in photographs of writing tasks or creative work where possible and also keeping communication going with class teachers.

Contact Numbers

Please make sure we have your up-to-date contact numbers. If they have changed over the closure period, please do inform the school office ASAP.

Anxious Children

It is important to start talking to your child about their return to school. We understand that some children will be very anxious and we will do all we can to alleviate these fears on their return. However, our experience in the summer term was that children adapted very quickly to the changes and were just happy to be back at school with their friends!

Dates for diaries

Normally I am able to give a list of dates and events but these are not yet normal times. Whilst we will deliver a full and exciting curriculum we cannot yet offer all the extra things that we used to do. However, it is useful for parents to know about the dates of the 5 TD Days in advance as this may affect your work or holiday plans.

TD Days

Tuesday 1st September 2020

Thursday 17th December 2020

Friday 18th December 2020

Thursday 22nd July 2021

Friday 23rd July 2021

I am so looking forward to seeing everyone again and making our full return to school a positive experience for everyone. If you have any concerns please do get in touch via the school office email.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Amanda Brockway
Headteacher

