



**Goring Church of England
(Aided) Primary School**
Faith, Love and Learning

25 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

In line with the Government's latest announcement schools will be fully open to ALL children from Monday 8 March and we are very much looking forward to welcoming your child/ren back to school on this day. I am sure many of you will be relieved that your child can resume their school based learning while perhaps others are anxious about this relaxation of lockdown restrictions. Please read the following updated information carefully, so that you understand how we will seek to keep the school community safe while also addressing the important elements of wellbeing and learning.

I recognise the demands that remote learning has placed on many families and must congratulate these parents, who have met the challenges head on while often juggling their own work demands at home. You have done an amazing job!

Mental Health and wellbeing

It is important that after the events of recent months we have the most up to date information regarding your child's wellbeing whether they have been in school or home based. This will help their classteacher to facilitate a smooth transition and address any specific individual needs. I would ask that you complete our short March Return to School survey immediately for each of your children by clicking the relevant link. Information for multiple siblings in the same class can be completed in one single survey.

Psychological First Aid: Supporting Children and Young People

This online course, developed by Public Health England (PHE), offers training on how to provide practical and emotional support to children and young people affected by emergencies or crisis situations. Children and young people can be very resilient, but crises such as COVID-19 can severely impact their mental health. Getting the right support early on can help prevent problems occurring or worsening.

Those completing the training will be equipped to better identify those children that are in distress and provide support to help them feel safe, connected and able to take steps to help themselves during the pandemic or other crisis situations.

Safety control measures

From 8 March 2021, in line with Government guidance, we will be expecting **all** children to return to school on a full time basis. Re-establishing regular attendance will be critical to ensure that the children's wellbeing can

continue to be supported by staff, that they can all access a broad and ambitious curriculum once again and that gaps in learning can be addressed. School leaders are required to implement appropriate measures to manage any safety risks and although I appreciate that some of these, including staggered start/end to the day, may cause some difficulties for families, I would ask that you work with us to continue to protect our whole school community. Staggered starts will be the norm in schools for the foreseeable future and employers will be aware of this and the impact it may have on working parents. I would suggest that if you experience difficulty in this area that you make your need known to other parents or your class rep so that as a community you can support one another.

Our school risk assessment has been reviewed and updated and can be viewed on the school website, along with other useful Covid-19 related information.

What protective measures will be in place

- Adults and children entering the school will be required to wash/sanitize their hands on arrival and regularly throughout the day
- Masks will not be worn by children in school and any children arriving at school wearing a mask will be asked to remove it themselves and either dispose of it in a lidded bin on the playground or place it in their own plastic bag if it is re-useable
- Staff will wear masks in communal areas and if they are unable to maintain 2m distance from other adults
- Staff will have access to Lateral flow testing bi-weekly
- Tissues will be available for every child/adult to help promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Any shared equipment will be on rotation and disinfected before being used by new bubbles
- Enhanced cleaning of the school building will continue on a daily basis
- Rooms will be well ventilated throughout the day
- Engagement in the Track and Trace system

What will Happen if a child or adult shows signs of COVID-19?

He/she will be removed from his/her bubble and brought to the isolation room where a member of staff will be in attendance in full PPE. The parent will be contacted and asked to collect their child straight away.

Parents will be asked to collect their child and any siblings within a maximum period of 45 minutes.

The child/adult will be asked to take a PCR test and to let the school know the result immediately.

The child/adult will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days or until the test results are back and are shown to be negative.

The child's/adult's whole family will need to self-isolate for 10 days or until the test shows negative.

If the test result is positive, then the family and any contacts will need to self-isolate for 10 days to watch for symptoms and keep the school informed. This may include a super bubble depending on who the child has been in contact with. Parents will be advised if their child/class bubble needs to self-isolate in line with PHE/DFE advice.

Should the school have 2 positive cases within a fortnight, this would be considered an outbreak and the Local Authority would be informed. The decision to close the whole school or have a partial closure would be at Local Authority level.

If a child displays symptoms of Covid outside school hours parents should contact the school office via the dedicated Covid email covid19@goring.w-sussex.sch.uk providing the child's name and details of when their symptoms first occurred, and actions taken to follow Government guidance.

When and who will be expected to attend school?

Everyone is expected to attend school from Monday 8 March – this is mandatory and the usual rules regarding attendance will apply for schools and parents. If you have particular concerns in relation to your child's return or wellbeing, please email your child's class teacher immediately and we will seek to support you to help your child make a successful transition back into class after such a disrupted period.

Pupil who are clinically vulnerable or living with a family member who is clinically vulnerable are able to return to school. If you have concerns regarding your child's return due to their medical status, please contact the school office for further advice.

What approach will be taken to wellbeing, curriculum and assessment?

Good mental health and wellbeing is a pre-requisite for effective learning and teachers will be planning activities that will support children's transition back into more normal school routines. During this time, we will be focusing on the children's social and emotional wellbeing and reminding them of how to comply with the important measures in place in order to keep everybody in school safe. It is clear that our youngest children will have particular developmental needs and learning approaches will be adapted to cater for these. We will initially assess their attainment and progress in the core subjects of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, in order to prepare an appropriate and challenging curriculum for them in the weeks and months ahead. Gaps in learning will be identified and addressed through a recovery curriculum with targeted learning sessions provided for individuals/groups as appropriate.

How will the children be organised?

We recognise the challenges of socially distancing younger children, however in order to minimise potential transmission, children will be placed in their own class 'bubble' with the appropriate number of adults and contact with the other bubble in the same year group will be permitted only when essential. This will enable us to meet the children's emotional and learning needs in the safest and most effective way. Contact between different year group bubbles will not be permitted during the school day. Children will be seated next to each other in forward facing tables in class wherever possible and this will also apply to younger children who may at times sit on the carpet. Class teachers will remain at the front of the class as far as possible and limit direct proximity to children during feedback etc.

Reception - Y2 children will be provided with a pencil case containing necessary equipment.

Children in Year 3-6 are asked to bring in their own school equipment. Therefore, your child may bring the following items into school:

- 1 pencil case (reasonably sized)
- Colouring pencils (maximum of 12)
- 1 sharpener (with attached container for collecting sharpenings)
- 1 glue stick
- Ruler (to fit into pencil case)
- Plastic document wallet (Rexel style)

Please name all resources clearly so that they do not get lost. The school will provide writing pencils and handwriting pens for all children. Children **should not** bring in a rubber. If providing these items poses a difficulty, equipment will be provided by school.

How will the start and end of the day work?

Social distancing will continue to be important so a staggered entry/exit system and the one-way system will continue to be in place.

Prompt adherence to these times will be critical to maintaining social distancing between year groups and to minimize the gathering of groups outside the school site especially along pavements etc. Waiting areas are provided on site for families with multiple children.

Year group	Entry	Exit
Reception	8.35 enter via Mulberry Lane gate, exit via office gate	2.40 enter via Mulberry Lane gate, exit via office gate Dismissed from Early Years Area
1	8.40 via Mulberry Lane gate, exit via office gate	2.45 enter via Mulberry Lane gate, exit via office gate Dismissed from KS1 playground
2	8.45 via Mulberry Lane gate, exit via office gate	2.50 enter via Mulberry Lane gate, exit via office gate Dismissed from KS1 playground
3	8.35 children only enter via KS2 gate	2.50 enter via KS2 gate Dismissed from KS2 playground Exit via the carpark pedestrian gate
4	8.40 children only enter via KS2 gate	2.55 enter via KS2 gate Dismissed from KS2 playground Exit via the carpark pedestrian gate
5	8.45 children only enter via KS2 gate	3.00 enter via KS2 gate Dismissed from KS2 playground Exit via the carpark pedestrian gate
6	8.50 children only enter via KS2 gate	3.10 enter via KS2 gate Dismissed from KS2 playground Exit via the carpark pedestrian gate

- **Only one adult** will be permitted on site to drop off/collect children and are asked to leave the site without delay
- Adults are required to wear a mask while on site unless exempt for medical reasons
- Staff will collect/dismiss children from the playgrounds
- Parents are asked not to gather outside the school gate unnecessarily before or after school and to socially distance while waiting
- Parents will be required to strictly adhere to the allocated drop off and collect time for their child/ren. This **MUST** include siblings who have different times. This is to maintain social distancing between year group bubbles. Families with KS1 and KS2 siblings can if necessary, wait with their parents on the grassy area by the hall windows. Year 6 children can if necessary, in a designated area in the staff car park until their allocated entry time.
- I would encourage Year 5 & 6 children to walk to school independently and parents should complete and return the attached permission form to the school office by Thursday 2 March if happy for them to do so. Forms can be found at the end of this letter.
- Key Stage 2 children will be required to enter the school independently via the KS2 gate adjacent to the carpark at the start of the school day.

Staff will be available to support the children's entry into the building/class.

- Reception and Key Stage 1 parents will need to say goodbye to their child on the playground as entry to the school building will not be permitted
- The school carpark will NOT be available for parents who have previously had permission to use it. Please allow enough time to park and walk.

Will my child be expected to wear uniform?

All children will be expected to return in uniform and also bring appropriate PE kit/trainers. Class teachers will advise parents which days Y4, 5 & 6 children will need to bring in their kit. All items of clothing must be clearly named please. If you are experiencing difficulty providing the correct uniform please contact the school office for support. The school holds a range of good quality second hand items which may be of use.

Base layers and additional fleeces may be worn to provide extra warmth while in class, as temperatures in school are lower than usual due to the need for greater ventilation.

Uniform Expectations 2020/2021

All children are expected to wear winter uniform as set out below.

Branded uniform can be purchased from school online via Pay+. The office staff will endeavour to complete orders for collection 3 days after payment.

Reception Children

Winter: Girls Navy blue tunic, skirt or trousers/culottes School cardigan or jumper (navy blue with red stripe) White polo shirt White socks or navy tights Sensible black shoes (NO trainers or high heeled shoes)	Boys Grey trousers School jumper (navy blue with red stripe) White polo shirt Grey socks Sensible black shoes (NO trainers)
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Years 1 – 6 Children

Winter: Girls Navy blue tunic, skirt or trousers/culottes School cardigan or jumper (navy blue with red stripe) White blouse School tie White socks or navy tights Sensible black shoes (not trainers or high heeled shoes please)	Boys Grey trousers School jumper (navy blue with red stripe) White shirt School tie Grey socks Sensible black shoes (not trainers)
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Hair

Hair which is longer than shoulder length will be tied back.

No extreme hair styles, these include unnatural colour, shaved lines or patterns, distinct changes in length in the hair (changes should be graduated). No beaded or braiding.

Makeup and Jewellery

No makeup or jewellery will be worn, other than a single set of ear studs which will be covered with tape (provided by parents) during PE lessons. All nails will be free from nail varnish

I hope that these clear expectations and high standards will help the children to present themselves appropriately in school and clarify any areas of uncertainty.

What will happen at playtime and lunchtime?

- Children will play in a designated area with other children from their year group at playtime and lunchtime
- Hot meals for most children will be served in the hall in a socially distanced way on a rotation basis. KS2 children will eat their lunch with their bubble based in their own classroom (including some children having hot meals)

When will after school clubs/wraparound care resume?

We are planning to resume our after-school clubs from the beginning of the summer term. Details will be sent to you in due course.

Sadly, our previous wraparound provider had to withdraw their provision offer due to the financial implications of Covid. Alternative providers are being explored in the hope that a new offer can be secure for parents from September 2021.

How should I contact the school?

Please only call the school office by phone with emergency queries /information and for absence notification. All other contact should be via email to the school office - office@goring.w-sussex.sch.uk or directly to teachers as appropriate, however please be aware response time from teachers will be slower due to teaching commitments.

Parents will only be permitted on site with an appointment and there will be a limit of one adult/family in the office waiting area to maintain social distancing. Any adult entering the school building will be made aware and expected to comply with the school's safety measures including washing/sanitising their hands and wearing a mask.

If you have any concerns/queries in the coming weeks, please contact your class teacher in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Jee



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Dear Parents/Carers,

Walking to and from school

From September 2020, parents of children in Year 5 & 6 will have the option to allow their child greater independence in walking to and from school.

Each child will develop the necessary skills and maturity to make this a safe arrangement at different times. Should you choose to take this option, please complete and return the attached permission form; a copy of this form will then be held by both the school office and the class teacher.

Having made this decision, we are aware that some parents may wish to provide their child with a mobile phone. Please note that **children may only bring a mobile phone to school if they are walking to and from school independently.** The school agreement for bringing mobile phones to school is:

The school/teacher will:

- Collect mobile phones at the beginning of the day
- Keep mobile phones in a locked cupboard throughout the day
- Return mobile phones to children at the end of the day

You/your child will:

- Ensure phones are clearly named
- Hand their mobile phone in to their class teacher at the beginning of the day (ensuring it is switched off!) and collect them at the end of the school day
- Use their phones responsibly going to and from school
- Ensure phones are switched off on entering the school site and remain off until leaving the gate at the end of the day.

Please note that if this agreement is breached in any way then the school reserves the right to withdraw permission for your child to bring their mobile phone into school.

If applicable, please complete and return the attached permission forms to the school office. Forms will be available from the office throughout the year should you choose to allow your child to walk and use a mobile phone at a later time. If your child attends an after school club, there will be a permission option on the club slips regarding arrangements for walking home after clubs finish or should it need to be cancelled on the day.

Many thanks

Mrs C Jee
Headteacher



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Walking to and from school independently

I _____ (Parent/Carer), give permission for my child
_____ (child's name) in _____ class to walk
to and from school independently.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____

Mobile phones

(Please note this option is ONLY if your child is walking to/from school independently and you wish for them to bring their mobile phone for safety)

My child _____ will be bringing their mobile phone into school.

Child's mobile phone number: _____

My child and I agree to the following conditions:

The school/teacher will:

- Collect mobile phones at the beginning of the day
- Keep mobile phones in a locked cupboard throughout the day
- Return mobile phones to children at the end of the day

You/your child will:

- Ensure phones are clearly named
- Hand their mobile phone in to their class teacher at the beginning of the day (ensuring it is switched off!) and collect them at the end of the school day.
- Use their phones responsibly going to and from school.
- Ensure phones are switched off on entering the school site and remain off until leaving the gate at the end of the day.

My child and I understand that if this agreement is breached, then the school reserves the right to withdraw permission to bring a mobile phone into school.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____

Signed: _____ (child) Class: _____