



Abbeys Primary School : September 2020 Return to School

FAQS

How safe is the school?

We have worked to ensure that our school environment is as safe as it can possibly be for pupils and staff. In accordance with government and union guidance, a full Covid-19 risk assessment has been produced for all staff to follow. This has been Governor-approved and covers health and safety areas such as infection control, first aid and dealing with potential emergencies such as an evacuation. Infection control procedures will be ongoing, such as regular surface cleaning throughout the day, and use of appropriate PPE for staff if they have to deal with first aid or other situations. Enhanced cleaning is now standard practice, carried out by our staff as well as our contracted cleaning team, and a full deep clean of the school has taken place over the summer break. The risk assessment and health and safety planning we have put in place have all minimised risk, but as in the outside world, they cannot completely remove risk. Please speak to a member of staff if you have any queries.

How will the school maintain social distancing?

- Staggered timings for break and lunchtimes will support social distancing and zoning of groups of children.
- Pupils will be working in classrooms in groups of up to 30, with year group bubbles for small-scale assemblies.
- We will not have whole school assemblies, to avoid unnecessary wider mixing of groups.
- Signage has been set up around the school to highlight social distancing awareness.
- Staff will encourage social distancing and carry out ongoing monitoring.

What will a normal school day look like?

- We are requesting that one adult per family drops children off at school.
- Our new Foundation Stage children will enter and leave the school building through the long corridor at the front of the school.
- Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils will come onto their respective playgrounds and line up at their signposted class area.
- On entering the building, all children will wash/sanitise their hands, and repeat this regularly throughout the day.
- Teaching will take place with minimised movement around the school, and use of staggered timings and zones for break and lunchtimes.
- Children will each have their own plastic wallet pack containing regularly-used stationery, to avoid unnecessary sharing of resources.
- Outdoor learning will be encouraged, including PE and non-contact sport.
- As far as possible, children will be with and stay with the adults that they know.

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What will my child need to bring to school?

- Reading books, book bags and planners can now travel between home and school. PE bags should come into school for the whole week, and taken home to be washed over the weekend.
- The water fountains have been turned off for infection control purposes, so please send in a water bottle for your child. Disposable cups will still be available for drinking water, but an individual bottle is best.

Does my child need to wear school uniform?

Yes, we expect all our children to wear their school uniform, including suitable footwear, every day.

Will I be fined if I choose not to send my child back to school?

The Government has stated that school attendance is mandatory, and that it is a moral imperative that children all return to school from September. Issuing fines for non-attendance will be a last resort, so if this is an issue for your family, please contact us to discuss your situation further.

Will parents be able to attend events in school this year?

Subject to any changing Government advice, we are planning to hold Parents' Evenings on 14th and 15th October, with social distancing protocols in place. More information will follow on this, and other proposed events in school.

Are there going to be after-school clubs this year?

We will not be able to offer our normal after-school clubs for the Autumn term. We will review the situation for Spring and Summer 2021, subject to any changing Government guidance.

What happens if I need to speak to my child's teacher?

Our teachers will not be able to speak at any length to parents on the playgrounds at the start of the day. Please make contact by telephone or email and we will respond as soon as possible.

We want to work with our families to ensure that our children return to school successfully. Thank you in advance for your support. Please speak to us if you require any further information or need to share relevant information about your situation.