

# 9<sup>th</sup> June - Back To School – F.A.Q.s

## What is the system for school 'Drop-off' and 'Pick-up'?

There will be staggered drop-off and collection times:

### - MORNINGS:

Gates open at 8:35am for 'Early Arrivals'.

8:40am – Reception and Year 6 arrival.

8:50am – Year 1 and Key Worker Children not in Year 6 or Year R.

Families with 2 children in different 'waves' can arrive at 8:55am.

### - END OF DAY:

3pm – Collect Reception.

3:05pm – Collect Year 1 and KS1 Key Worker Pupils

3:15pm – Collect Year 6 and Key Stage 2 Key Worker Pupils

Only one adult per family. Siblings not coming to school stay at home, if possible.

Queue in family groups. Queue on 2m lines that will be marked on Potters Green and on the playground. Obey one-way system.

**Parents are requested to move along smoothly and not linger to chat, thank you.**

## One-way system for parents to come and drop off children.

Marked (tape on ground) shows you a walk route for parent and child(ren) through the left main gate onto the playground where the Yr R queue 2m apart up to Class 1 door. Then the route follows round the front of the school door / hall and back out pedestrian access gate to leave.

Bubble B (Year 1) and Bubbles C & D (Yr 6 children) branch off from the queue once they reach the point where the queue moves on to the open playground. They go across the playground and enter through the back classroom doors. Route marked with 2m intervals to ensure we all stay 2m apart.

## Will the Lollypop Lady be there for pupils walking to school?

West Sussex are currently reviewing Sandy's safety and that of persons crossing the road at a potential 'pinch point'. At the moment please assume there is no lollypop lady and instruct your children accordingly. If the situation changes, we will let you know.

## Is it true that my child can bring their bike or scooter to school?

Yes. Year 6 and Year 2 can bring a bike (optional). Reception and Year 1 **should** bring a scooter, if they have one. We'll lend Yr R & 1 a trike, if they don't have a scooter.

It is a good way of ensuring social distancing at playtimes. A bike track will be set up on the school field for Year 6 and Year 2 and a scooter track on the playground for Reception and Year 1. Children must only touch their bike or scooter and must not take turns on each other's. **All cyclists must wear a helmet.**

Put all bikes against the fence on the playground when the queue on the 2m lines reaches a point where you can do this safely without getting near other families.

Scooters can go on the rack by the kitchen door. Please wait on the 2m lines until it's clear for your child to take their turn. If the rack is full, put your scooter with the bikes against the fence. Year 6 don't have to bring a bike and may prefer to sit and chat on the field at a comfortable 2m distance from their friends.

### **What equipment is my child allowed to bring to school?**

We ask you to ensure that, apart from the exceptions listed below, your child brings nothing from home to school or vice versa. This is to minimise the transition risk.

#### **EXCEPTIONS:**

- Lunchbox and water bottle
- A hat & sun cream - if hot and sunny
- A waterproof coat – if wet / cold
- A bike or scooter for playtimes (+ helmets for cyclists)

Unfortunately, due to the risk of the virus being carried on surfaces, no reading books will be able to pass from school to home or vice versa. Families should continue to use the online Oxford Owl and Accelerated Reader books.

No sharing of food at lunchtimes or bringing in special food for birthdays, we're afraid.

Pupils should not bring any stationery with them, they will be provided with their own personal set of items.

### **If I am not allowed to enter the school, or wait outside on the playground for long, how do I get in touch with the adult teaching my child if I need to?**

All enquiries to the school office should now be made by telephone or email, not at the window.

No parent is permitted to enter the building to search for lost property or other such reasons.

Teaching staff will make an effort to come on to the playground, for a brief question, but if you have an urgent message please email or ring the school office.

### **How will staff ensure that children from different 'Bubble Groups' don't mix?**

- the 'Bubble Groups' consist of the same staff and pupils each day, and these small consistent groups will not have contact with the other 3 groups in the building
- organise separate classrooms for those groups, maintaining 2m space between seats and desks where possible. They will always return to their specified classroom
- access rooms directly from outside whenever possible. One-way movement taped out on floors.
- ensure that toilets do not become crowded by managing the number of children or young people who use the toilet facilities at one time
- for exercise and breaks – section off the playground so pupils stay in their 'Bubble Groups'. As well as staggering when breaks occur. Use of bikes and scooters so children can have a fun break-time whilst maintaining social distancing
- to not use shared spaces like the hall. Lunch outside whenever possible at different sites for the different groups. If wet, the classrooms will be cleaned and then each group will have lunch in their own classroom
- older children always sit at the same desk with their personal set of equipment
- each Bubble in KS2 will have their own toilet (Bubble D children use the KS2 Girls Loos – can be converted to Unisex; Bubble C Girls use disabled loo & boys use KS2 boys loo). Bubble A will use KS1 Boys loo. Bubble B use KS1 Girls loo
- staff will consider which lessons or classroom activities could take place outdoors
- stagger break times (including lunch), so that all children are not moving around the school at the same time and, again, children remain in their 'Bubble Group'

### When will my child be able to have a hot lunch from Chartwells?

Initially, we have decided it's safest for each child to have their own packed lunch from home.

We will review this policy after a week, or so, once we have had time to discuss food service with Chartwells. We will look into whether Chartwells can provide a packed lunch or whether hot school meals can begin again safely.

### Will the children have to stay 2 metres apart?

Yes – we will explain to the children what 2m Social Distancing is for and do our best to maintain this\*

\*The government have said this:

*'early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff'*

For this reason, they have devised the 'Bubble System' which will operate at St Peter's and is described below.

Whilst the governors and I agree with the government statement about 2m social distancing being hard for children to maintain (especially those in Reception); the governors and I agree that our default position must be:

**Carry out our best endeavours to ensure the children to stay 2m apart.**

We appreciate that the capacity for the younger children to maintain 2m social distancing will not be as high as our Year 6 pupils, but it will be our goal as a school to maintain social distancing.

**THE BUBBLE SYSTEM** - Due to the fact that 2m social distancing can't be guaranteed we will also follow the measures listed below (and more besides) in to place to follow the government advice to:

*'avoid contact with anyone with COVID-19 symptoms and minimise the level of contact and mixing'*

The principle of the 'Bubble System' is that we carry out this minimisation of mixing and, if one adult or child in a bubble contracts Coronavirus, then the whole group self-isolate for 14 days and this prevents further infection through the school.

### What should I do if my child gets sent home with symptoms of COVID-19?

If anyone in an education or childcare setting 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.

If we, at school, suspect your child is showing signs of Coronavirus we will ring you and ask you to come and collect your child. It is very important that you go to the [111 online coronavirus service](#) if your child is 5 or over. Call 111 if they're under 5. Then you probably will be advised that your child has a test to see if they have the virus.

This is important because, once we have a confirmed case, all the children and adults in their bubble go home to self-isolate for 14 days. To arrange a test go to:

NHS 'Test & Trace' [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus) or call 119.

**The school has to assume that, by sending your child to school, you are agreeing to organise a COVID Test if they become symptomatic and to letting us know the result ASAP.** The safety of everyone else coming into school depends on this. If you wouldn't want to organise a test for your child, please don't send them to school at the moment. Thank you.

## **What should I do while I wait for a 'TEST' or if my child tests positive for COVID-19?**

The government advise is to follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#).

This essentially says:

When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, their fellow household members should also self-isolate for 14 days.

The National Test & Trace Service will advise parents on the next steps and they will need to share information about their child's recent interactions. See:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-nhs-test-and-trace-service>

People identified as having been in close contact with someone who has a positive test must stay at home for 14 days, even if they do not have symptoms, to stop unknowingly spreading the virus.

If the child tests positive, they must continue to stay at home for 7 days or until their symptoms have passed. If they test negative, they must complete the 14-day isolation period along with the rest of their household. Test & Trace will provide a certificate for employers to prove it's a valid reason for being off work.

Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should 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.

## **What should I do if I change my mind about my child attending school?**

We ask parents to book their child's / children's attendance a week at a time by 9am on Wednesday of the week before they come. This will be done by emailing the office on: [office@st-peters-cowfold.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-peters-cowfold.w-sussex.sch.uk)

(We have explored whether there's an easier system but emailing in is the safest way.)

When parents book a week of school they will be committing to a whole block of four days in the following week. We are not offering a 'one day in one day out' offer.

We believe we need this weekly review as parents will be returning to work gradually, if the 'R – rate' remains low. Therefore, we need to be flexible, whilst staying safe. We have to have a robust system, so we know exactly which children are expected to arrive at school on any one morning for safety purposes.

The same processes occur as for normal school – if your child is expected at school but is ill, you need to ring the school office by 9:10am, please.

This system applies if your child is at home and you wish them to start coming to school again. Or vice versa.

**If we hear nothing from a parent of a child currently attending school, by 9am on a Wednesday, we will assume that nothing has changed and the child will be attending the following week. It is the parents' responsibility to inform us of any changes to their child's attendance.**

### **Will the school have any extra cleaning done over the next half of the summer term?**

**Yes. Every Monday school will be closed for a specialist cleaning company to come in and do a deep clean in line with the government guidance in:**

**[COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings guidance](#)**

**Then, every school day:**

- Each teacher in each Bubble Room will have a cleaning kit of wipes & disinfectant spray to wipe down surfaces, handles, equipment after every hour long session. Books that the children are reading in class will need the covers wiping down and i-pad screens will be wiped.
- The children's toilets will be cleaned after each bubble group's toilet time (every 1 hour) by our 'In-house Cleaning Team'.
- There will be an additional cleaning time for our 'In-house Cleaning Team' when the pupils are outside at lunch and lunchtime play.
- There will be a thorough clean in line with the guidance ([COVID-19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings guidance](#)) at the end of every school day by our extremely thorough 'In-house Cleaning Team'.
- All soft furnishings and items that are difficult to clean have been removed from classrooms as well as all other non-essential items
- Shared resources will need to be cleaned every time we use them so we will only use plastic resources that can be Milton Dipped in boxes located in every classroom.

### **Will my child need to be in school uniform?**

**Yes.**

**Pupils are required to wear their usual uniform. If any child has out grown their uniform, we will make small allowances as parents won't have been able to go shopping over Lockdown. Please don't worry.**

**Please try to wash your child's uniform every day when they get home. This is the safest practice.**

**If you have any further questions that have not been answered by this, and other, documents; please don't hesitate to email in to the school office and we will do our utmost to respond.**