

28th August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had a pleasant few weeks and managed to enjoy the sunshine while it lasted!

As anticipated, the government have now confirmed that schools should reopen in the Autumn term and we are very much looking forward to welcoming all children back to Cheadle Hulme Primary School on Thursday 3rd September. The team here have been working hard to ensure that the children enjoy a safe, happy and successful start to the year and to support you as parents we felt now was a good time to provide a few more details on what school will look like from next week:

School timings

As previously communicated, to limit the number of people on site at any one time (and in accordance with DfE guidance) we will be operating staggered drop-off and pick-up times according to year group as follows:

Year Groups	Drop off	Pick up
Year 1	8.40 – 8.50 am	3.00 pm
Year 2	8.50 – 9.00 am	3.10 pm
Reception	9.00 – 9.10 am	3.20 pm
Nursery	9.00 am	3.00 pm

For drop off, please follow the one-way system that is in place. At pick up, parents and carers should position themselves on the school playground in a way that adheres to current social distancing measures. Children will be dismissed from school via their classroom doors and we ask that everybody leaves the site promptly to allow for the staggered timings to have maximum positive impact.

Please help us in minimising the time you spend on school site both at drop off and pick up. The latest government guidance states that '*gathering at the school gates and otherwise coming onto the site without an appointment is not allowed*' ('Guidance for full opening of schools, 7th August 2020)

Attendance and punctuality

The government have set the expectation that all children return to school in the Autumn term. A small number of children may still be unable to attend in line with public health advice or because they are self-isolating. We ask you to keep in daily communication with the school if either of these reasons apply to your child. Otherwise all usual attendance rules apply in line with school policy.

All pupils should be in school within their allotted arrival time (see above). Pupils who are late must report to the School Office and sign in on our inventory system. If your child is going to be absent or late then you must telephone the office by 9.00am on 0161 507 5400.

Safety measures in school

We will continue to implement what the government refer to as the 'Hierarchy of Controls' (these have been updated as part of reopening guidance released on the 2nd July):

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home

- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

Additional measures that have been in place since more pupils returned to school in June will also continue and include:

- A one-way system in and out of school to help everyone socially distance which must be adhered to
- Pupils being required to wash their hands on arrival and at other transition points
- One parent/carer allowed on site to drop off/collect their child and siblings left at home where possible
- Pupils being based mainly in one room and taught by a limited number of staff
- Minimal interaction between classes / year groups so that any outbreak of the virus can be tracked and traced and those affected can be tested
- Avoiding large gatherings such as assemblies (which will continue to be done virtually)
- Limiting the number of people in the school building who are not Laurus Trust staff
- Desks in classrooms facing the front where possible
- Classrooms stripped back to facilitate additional cleaning
- Each child having their own space and equipment
- Pupils refraining from bringing non-essential personal belongings to or from school (except medication)

You will most likely be aware of the disproportionate effect of COVID-19 on individuals of a BAME background - Evidence from the Office for National Statistics shows a greater impact of COVID-19 on Black communities, if you have any specific concerns please contact us to discuss in September.

Face coverings

You will have no doubt seen the coverage on this subject specifically regarding use in secondary schools. At present the use of face coverings is not recommended in primary schools (and in fact thought to be a potential risk if not worn correctly) so we would ask you not to send your child with one to wear in school. If you have specific concerns on this matter please contact us.

Symptoms in school

Following government advice, 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 will 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 and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). See **Coronavirus-Related Absences Guide** for further information.

If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19

The school and local health protection team will work together to carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate. Based on the advice from the health protection team, schools must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious.

Important points to note for September

School Office

The School Office will remain closed as an additional safety measure and will be dealing with enquiries over the phone or by email. You are always welcome to contact our admin team on 0161 507 5400 or at admin@cheadlehulmeprimary.org.uk or if it is a query specific to Kids Club you are able to contact the team direct at kidsclub@cheadlehulmeprimary.org.uk

Uniform

All pupils are now expected to attend school in full uniform including school PE kits. For the full list of specifications please see our school website.

Lunches

Pupils are welcome to bring in their own packed lunches as usual (please remember we are a **nut free** school) or to order a school lunch. Over the course of the term, the children will be eating their lunch in their classrooms or the school hall to avoid the mixing of Bubbles in communal areas.

Clubs

Over the first half of the Autumn Term, there will be no extra-curricular clubs. We will keep this offer under review and hope to expand this when safe to do so.

Curriculum

The team are really looking forward to getting back to what they do best and are excited to start the year with their new classes. The first few weeks of term will be hugely important both in settling the children back in to school life and also in establishing any ground that needs to be made up having missed so much time in school this year.

With the latter of these points in mind we will be conducting some assessments with the children over the first few weeks which will allow us to identify the specific needs of all pupils and plan to address these accordingly. To help us with this we are planning to bring forward our November Parents' Evenings to allow us to discuss further with you the academic implications and also how your child has settled back in to school on a social and emotional level. More details on these meetings (which will be conducted virtually) will follow in the next few weeks.

As a final note, we recognise that each of our pupils are likely to cope with the return to school in different ways. We will be adapting the curriculum and general approach in school to support this but if you feel your child is likely to really struggle over the first week or two in particular, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Class Teacher to discuss this further.

We look forward to welcoming you and your children back on **Thursday 3rd September** and in the meantime please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any questions ahead of the start of term.

Yours sincerely,

Elise Drake

Head of School