



3 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to a new academic year at Christchurch Junior School. I do hope you have been able to enjoy a relaxing break and that your children are excited about coming to school next week. We cannot wait to greet our returning pupils and welcome our newcomers. As your new Headteacher, I am very much looking forward to meeting you and your children over the coming weeks.

Behind the scenes, our CJS staff have been busily preparing for the new term and there are a number of measures we have taken to provide the safest possible environment for all. On our website you will find our risk assessment detailing our full reopening of school. <https://www.cjsdorset.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/CJS-risk-assessment-for-full-reopening-01.09.2020.pdf>

The risk assessment holds the bulk of our approaches while this letter merely provides an outline for you. Many of the messages contained here are as they were in July, with a few additions.

Although we are living through extraordinary times, I have no doubt that your children will demonstrate incredible resilience. Time will be invested in helping them to reignite and develop their relationships, we will identify and close gaps in their learning and we will work to boost their self-esteem. The term ahead may present challenges along the way, but by home and school working together we will overcome these. Keep an open line of communication with us by phoning, emailing the school office, messaging through ClassDojo or writing a note to your child's teacher in their reading diary, should you require any support or have questions for us.

Please see the next few pages of this letter for information about full reopening.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Fuller
Headteacher

Full reopening of Christchurch Junior School – Information for parents/carers

As you are no doubt aware, children return to school on Monday 7th September and this is no longer optional (as it was last term). We recognise that for some families there might be anxiety around the return to school and we will work with you to make sure the transition is successful. The school will be returning to our normal procedures regarding attendance and we will monitor this from the beginning of the term. If your child is unwell and cannot attend school, then please notify our school office with a reason for your child's absence as soon as possible on 01202 485579 or send an email to office@cjsdorset.org.

If your child has symptoms or coronavirus, you must follow the guidance below, taken from the NHS website.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms. If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

- Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.
- Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get their test result – they must only leave home to have a test.

Anyone they live with must also stay at home until your child gets their result.

One strategy we are employing to limit risk is to stagger the start and end times of the school day. Please work with us to keep to the timeframes indicated and if you are having specific difficulties, for example due to having more than one child with different timings, then please talk to your child's class teacher who will be happy to support you in finding a solution. When dropping off and collecting your children, please do so promptly and maintain social distancing – this will help to keep parents, pupils and staff safe. There are one-way systems in place and we ask that you keep to these routes. We recognise that in some instances this will add a few extra steps to your daily walk and we thank you for your understanding!

Year Group / Class	Drop off	Pick up	Location
3SC	8:30	2:45	Y3 gate via the main car park
3BB	8:40	2:55	
3GF	8:50	3:05	
3DH	9:00	3:15	
4SF, 4VD	8:30	2:55	Enter via Portfield Road gate. Drop off by the shade shelter and exit through the main car park, or once at the car park, loop back round through the Infant School playground, exiting through the Portfield Road gate. Take care when entering and exiting, giving space to others.
4AA, 4CC	8:45	3:10	
5GW, 5FL	8.30	2:55	Clarendon Road field gate
5KL, 5EY	8:45	3:10	
6JW, 6DB	8.30	2:55	Small car park gate (Clarendon Road)
6AM, 6AB	8:45	3:10	

There are a variety of additional strategies in place to limit transmission of coronavirus in our school community.

Year group bubbles

Pupils will be kept in year group bubbles throughout the school day and, as such, we have had to make some changes to the normal procedures in school. There will be additional cleaning in place to ensure that high standards of hygiene are maintained. We will continue with hygiene measures to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus, including:

- following Department for Education (DfE) guidance for any person who has symptoms.
- promoting frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices.
- regular and enhanced cleaning of equipment and settings.
- minimising contact and preventing the mixing of children from different year group bubbles wherever possible.

Handwashing/sanitising

Handwashing remains the most effective way to combat this crisis and staff will continue to ensure there are good hand cleaning routines for all children. Pupils will be expected to wash their hands upon entering the school building and will be expected to wash their hands/sanitise their hands at regular points during the school day including before eating and after playing. The hand sanitiser that we have purchased has a 70% alcohol base gel.

If your child suffers from a dermatological reaction to washing or sanitiser gel then please speak to the class teacher.

If your child is suffering from dry hands as a result of the increased cleaning measures, you can send in a tube of clearly named aqueous cream which they can use. Please complete a medical form <https://www.cjsdorset.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/ADMINISTRATION-OF-MEDICINE-AMENDED-28-April-2017.pdf> and your child can keep the cream and form with them in the classroom to administer themselves as and when required.

Other items to be aware of:

School Uniform

All children will be required to be in school uniform. On the days that your child has PE/games, they should come to school wearing their school PE kit and remain in it throughout the day to avoid the need for changing. **On Monday 7th September, all children should attend in school uniform.** We also ask that pupils do not bring mobile phones into school; the school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to them.

Face coverings

Face coverings are not required. Latest guidance is that children at primary schools do not need to wear masks and that they can actually increase the risk of transmission, however, if this guidance changes we will communicate this to you.

School Meals/lunchtimes

We will not be offering hot lunchtime meals for the first two weeks of term. For children who are entitled to Free School Meals, a packed lunch will be provided if you have already ordered. Children will remain in their bubble groups over lunchtime. Some children will eat in their classrooms and some will eat in the lunch halls with thorough cleaning between sittings. Please ensure your child has a clean lunchbox daily.

After school club – FUNTASTIC

DfE guidance now allows for before and after-school care to resume. FUNTASTIC will be communicating directly with parents to share their availability.

Curriculum

Please be reassured that when pupils return to school we will analyse where the pupils' starting points are and plan accordingly, taking these into account. There will be increased focus in the early weeks of term on activities that give children opportunities to understand their feelings related to the last six months. Teachers will also be working with pupils to help them rekindle and develop their friendships. Pupils' tables will face the front of the classroom with children sitting alongside their peers rather than face to face.

Pupils will attend assemblies with children from their year group bubble.

Extra-Curricular activities

During the autumn term, we hope to offer extra-curricular clubs in year group bubbles. Further details of these and how to sign up will be provided early in the term. External clubs are likely to begin once we can work with our providers and ensure their risk assessments meet our required standard. We are also investigating how we can offer peripatetic music tuition safely and within the guidelines.

To minimise risk to yourselves and our office staff, we ask that the following procedures are followed:

- If you need to contact the school, please call the school office on 01202 485579 or email office@cjsdorset.org rather than coming into the school.
- Please use the post box situated outside the main doors to return any paperwork to school.

The DfE has produced guidance about the return to school, specifically for parents, which I would encourage you to access: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need->

[to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term.](#)

Remember, if your child has any symptoms of coronavirus, do not bring them to school. Instead, engage with the NHS Test and Trace process, book a test and let us know the result please. See full details of the steps you must take by reading our risk assessment linked above or visiting the NHS website.

We look forward to welcoming your children on Monday 7th September.