



2 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to update you of our plans following the Government announcement that all pupils will be allowed to return to school on Monday 8 March.

We are delighted that we will be able to welcome all pupils back on Monday 8 March.

We know that this news has been welcomed by parents, children and staff and this offers hope of a return to some sort of normality following a particularly challenging period since the start of January. With the current vaccination programme and levels of infection reducing in our community, there are reasons to be positive. We must not become complacent and should continue to maintain measures to reduce the risk of infection.

We will continue with a number of elements already in place to keep the children and adults as safe as possible. Pupils will be kept in year group bubbles throughout the school day. 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:

- stopping contact with anyone with symptoms
- staff will continue to insist upon frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices with the children
- ensuring classrooms are well ventilated
- regular and enhanced cleaning of equipment and settings
- staff and parents/ carers wearing masks on site for pick up and drop off in line with Government guidance
- staff will wear masks in school (these may be removed when teaching from the front of the classroom)
- staff have been supplied with lateral flow device (LFD) test kits to self-swab. Staff have been asked to take their test kits home and carry out the test twice a week. Children will not need to be tested to pick up asymptomatic cases
- minimising contact and preventing the mixing of children from different year group bubbles wherever possible

School Uniform

From Monday 8 March, all children will be required to wear 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.

We would ask that pupils do not bring mobile phones into school. The school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to them.

In order to keep all pupils and staff safe, many changes have been in place since September 2020 and will need to remain in place. We will review our risk assessment regularly and keep you updated.

Beginning and end of school day

From Monday 8 March the school car park will only be accessible to school staff and those parents / carers who are 'Blue Badge' holders. We ask that parents park in a responsible and considerate way when dropping off or collecting your children from school.



In order to help maintain social distancing, one-way systems will continue around the school and at the drop off and pick up gates. These will be the same entrance and exit points that children were using prior to this current lockdown. It is important that you drop off and collect promptly and that time spent at school gates is minimal to avoid blocking these areas. We politely request that all parents wear a face covering whilst dropping off and picking up their children and remain at least 2m from others.

Classes will continue to start and finish at different times. Please inform class teachers if this creates a problem with siblings being dropped off and picked up and we will work with you to find a solution.

Year Group / Class	Drop off	Pick up	Location
3SC, 3BB	8:30	2:55	Y3 gate via the main car park
3GF, 3DH	8:45	3:10	
4SF, 4VD	8:30	2:55	Enter via Portfield Road Gate. Drop off by the shade shelter and exit through the pedestrian gate in the main car park. At end of day, parents enter via Portfield Road gate, collect by shade shelter and leave again via gate in car park. When footfall is light, we are happy to be flexible and let you use your judgement regarding the route you take. Please just be courteous of 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	

School Meals/lunchtimes

We will be offering hot lunchtime meals from Monday 8 March. 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.

After school club – FUNTASTIC

We are pleased to announce that Funtastic will be reopening on the 8 March. They will continue to operate from our Blue Water. Please approach Funtastic directly if you wish your child to attend.

Extra-Curricular activities

There will be a very limited offer for extra-curricular clubs for the remainder of this term. They will be by invitation only and will have an educational purpose. We hope to offer a full range of extra-curricular clubs after the Easter holiday. Further details of these will be communicated via email at the start of the summer term.

Attendance

It is an expectation of the Government that all children attend school from Monday 8 March unless they are self-isolating or are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable. We recognise that for some families there might be anxiety around the return to school and we will work with children to make sure the transition back is successful. The school will be returning to our normal procedures regarding attendance and we will monitor it from Monday 8 March.

It is important, as ever, that we all remain vigilant to the symptoms of Covid-19 even though the risk to young people is very small. There are things we can all do to help reduce the risk of getting ill with Covid-19:

- wash our hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash our hands as soon as we get to school and when we return home
- cover our mouth and nose with a tissue or our sleeve (not our hands) when we cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash our hands afterwards

If your child shows any symptoms of Covid-19 (a new, continuous cough and/or a high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste and smell) please do not send them to school but go to the dedicated NHS 111 Covid site, <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>, for details of what you need to do.

If your child is unwell and cannot attend school, then please notify the 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.

To minimise risk to yourselves and 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.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their support of the school and staff during these challenging times and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 8 March.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Fuller
Headteacher

Mr B Croton
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs E Curry
Assistant Heateacher & SENDCo