



Christ Church C.E. Primary (N.C.) School
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Head Teacher: Mr N Whitehouse
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Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

The government has announced that schools are expected to reopen fully on Monday 8th March. This is the first in a sequence of letters that will tell you all about the arrangements the school will be putting in place for when we reopen, in line with national guidance. We will continue to work hard to help make the pupils' return to school on 8th March as smooth and as safe as possible. We will let you know some important details now, and write to you again next week with further information.

The school will operate in a similar manner to how it did in the autumn term, including:

- **Staggered start and finish times for different year groups**
- **Consistent pupil groupings within school known as 'bubbles'**
- **Pupils and their families will be asked to remain at home and self isolate if they show Covid19 symptoms. You will be advised to access a Covid19 test.**
- **Different gates being used for dropping off and picking up pupils at the start and end of school depending on which class they are in**
- **Zones on the playground for socially distancing when picking up or dropping off pupils**
- **Staggered break and lunch times**
- **Hot school meals will continue**
- **The school building will remain closed to parents**
- **A strong emphasis on hand washing and hygiene**
- **Keeping the school well ventilated**

We will write to you next week with precise start and finish times as well as drop off and pick up locations.

We will be delighted to see pupils return after another long time away from school and our team have been preparing lots of exciting activities to support the children, as they come back to Christ Church. The teachers will begin by welcoming pupils back with a strong emphasis on the children's wellbeing, after what may have been a difficult of lockdown for some of them. We will then move on to accelerating the progress of the children to help close any gaps that may have emerged as a result of the closure.

Pupils will continue to get to and from school in differing ways, although we strongly encourage them walking to school. Where your family are using public transport, the government have



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produced the following guidance to make things safer on your way to and from Christ Church (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>).

Depending on how they have travelled to school, some pupils will have worn a mask, which they may have with them during the school day. It is important that they understand how to take off, put on and store the mask safely, including using a re-sealable bag to keep the face covering in during the day.

Attendance from Monday 8th March will be compulsory unless the pupil is ill or self isolating. If your child has been assessed as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable, please contact the school office for further information.

Remote learning will continue for pupils who are self isolating in line with school policy, which can be found on our website. Now we are returning to school, all digital items that have been loaned to parents during the closure must be returned on **Monday 8th March**.

Guidance states that **from** 8th March, schools should work to resume before school activities for parents who meet certain criteria. It also talks about keeping children in the same bubble that they would normally be in during the school day. As this represents a different way of working for our Breakfast Club we will need to make alternative arrangements for how it operates, and phase that approach in slowly to ensure that new social distancing and hygiene procedures are working effectively. As a result, during the week beginning 8th March, there will be no Breakfast Club, and from the week beginning 15th March we will slowly begin phasing children back to the service. We will email the parents of pupils who used to access Breakfast Club soon to discuss their eligibility and needs under the new guidance, as well as give more detail on our approach and plans for phasing the service back in line with new arrangements. We will give further information next week, but if you wish to enquire about Breakfast Club, please email enquiry@christch.com.

We look forward to seeing all of the pupils back at school on Monday 8th March and will be in contact next week, with even more information on how to make the children's return as smooth as possible. In the meantime, if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. N. Whitehouse.
Head Teacher



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