



Childwall Church of England Primary School

A Voluntary Aided School, founded by the Trustees of Salisbury House. Within the Diocese of Liverpool

Childwall Church of England Primary School
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Dear Parents/Carers

As promised last week, I want to share as much information as possible with you about our plans when we all return in September. As you know, guidance and the local situation can change at any time; however, with the information currently available these are our current plans:

Year Group 'Bubbles'

Children will continue to spend the day in 'bubble' groups to ensure that they are only mixing with a known group of people. Maintaining distinct groups or 'bubbles' and reducing the number of contacts between children and staff will make it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may have to self-isolate. We are going to be operating within year group bubbles, for a number of reasons: year group staff teams plan, evaluate and review the curriculum together; we have learning support assistants who work between 2 classes in a year group; support/intervention groups work across year groups; PPA cover is planned across year groups; staggered playtime/lunchtime rotas will operate most efficiently on a year group basis. For all of these reasons, we have decided to maintain year group bubbles, to manage risk of transmission, whilst ensuring that we can maintain the fullest educational offer to our children.

School Uniform

Now that we are all returning as a school family, we are requesting that children wear school uniform (see website <https://childwallce.co.uk/school-uniform/> for details). Please ensure that children's school shoes are appropriate for running in, both for exercise and play at break-times and for engaging in the Daily Mile. While we are limiting children's movement around school, we will not be able to disperse children to areas to change for PE and Games lessons. I am therefore requesting that, on PE days, children come to school wearing their PE tops and shorts under black tracksuit bottoms with, either a black tracksuit top/hoodie or their school jumper, and trainers. You will be advised when PE lessons are timetabled for each year group. I have deliberately avoided having a specific "school tracksuit" at this point to minimise cost to families but would be interested in parents'/carers' thoughts about this for the future.

PE and Sports

Children will continue to have PE lessons. So far as possible, these will take place outdoors; where weather prohibits this, we will use the hall, well-ventilated and cleaned after use. Children will be taught within their class or year groups, with sports equipment thoroughly cleaned between each use by different groups, and contact sports avoided. Please refer to 'School Uniform' section of letter for information regarding wearing PE kits/tracksuits all day.



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We have not yet finalised information regarding after school sports clubs or Happy Hedgehogs but will let you know when information is available.

Chill Kidz

We are aware that, for working parents/carers, having extended provision available before and after school is an important part of our school offer. During the past half-term, whilst operating in bubbles of a maximum of 15 children, we have been unable to offer this provision. However, with plans to extend 'bubbles' to year groups, we are now in a position to consider reopening Chill Kidz.

We are intending to operate morning and after school provision (for capped numbers) by splitting between use of the hall and the ark:

The hall will be divided into four specific areas (4 KS2 year groups) with all equipment /games etc.... used only for children in Chill Kidz from that specific year group. Similarly, the Ark will be zoned into three Reception & KS1 areas.

Mornings will operate from 7.45am, as previously, with a light breakfast provided to children arriving before 8.15am - passed to children by staff at their tables. This provision will cost £5 per day as previously.

After School, we will be offering one accommodation, 3.30pm - 4.45pm, with one fixed price (as opposed to the 3 options we previously offered). This will cost £7 daily.

Rationale behind closing earlier:

- The main reason is that - with the requirement for test and trace purposes, to keep children in year group bubbles - I don't think it's fair to children to remain in school any later since they will be very limited in the amount they can move around – they will really be contained within a zoned area to play / draw / puzzles / watch TV / read etc....
- Allows time for both hall and ark to be thoroughly cleaned nightly
- Simplifies snack requirement to fruit / nibbles and drink rather than more substantial snack which would be more difficult to prepare /serve / clean up with limitations of keeping children separated
- Allows Chill Kidz staff to thoroughly clean all equipment /games / etc.. after children leave

It will be essential that children are booked in and paid for in advance as distancing requirements will mean we need to cap numbers. If a session is booked and paid for and then not used, there will be no refund or transfer of payment to another session, as per original terms & conditions.

I will send out more information about Chill Kidz but wanted to take the opportunity within this information letter to advise you that we do intend to offer the provision but subject to the restrictions above. This will be regularly reviewed and, when we are able to do so, it's our intention to extend the hours as before.

Arrival

In order to limit numbers of children and adults waiting outside school, we will be staggering arrival times and children, upon arrival, will go straight to their classroom entering classrooms through external doors. Please ensure that, if you arrive prior to the gates opening, or are waiting to safely enter, you adhere to social distancing measures, queuing along the sandstone wall, 2m apart. Please ensure your children stand with you and are not mixing with children from other year groups. Adults should not come past the main school

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gate. As children arrive on the yard, staff will be in place to greet them and ensure they go safely to classrooms. If your child has worn a face covering on the journey to school, we would request that you guide them into how to safely remove it. A covered bin will be available by the gate for disposable face coverings or reusable coverings should be placed in a sealable plastic bag the children can take home with them. All children will be guided to wash their hands upon arrival at school.

8.30am All children with surname beginning A – B

8.35am All children with surname beginning C – D

8.40am All children with surname beginning E - G

8.45am All children with surname beginning H – K

8.50am All children with surname beginning L – Mc

8.55am All children with surname beginning M – P

9.00am All children with surname beginning R – S

9.05am All children with surname beginning T – Z

Please help us to avoid groups of children and adults gathering outside the school gates by adhering to your child/family's start and dismissal time. If anybody has any real difficulty in this matter, please contact us and we will try to arrange a solution.

Messages

To adhere to social distancing and to ensure arrival and dismissal flows as quickly and safely as possible, there will be no opportunity to speak to staff directly at the beginning or end of the school day. If there is a message or any information to be shared, please telephone school or email office@childwallce.com and we will ensure the message is shared.

Similarly, if staff need to speak to you, they will contact you by telephone or e-mail, since they will be unable to have a quick chat at the end of the day as they might have done previously.

If, at any point during the school day, you need to visit the school office, please note that only one person will be admitted into the entrance at any one time; please wait outside, standing 2m apart. Hand gel will be supplied where you are required to touch buzzers or key pads.

Dismissal

To avoid large numbers of adults and children on the yard, we will be staggering dismissal times and operating a one way system.

Please can **one adult only** collect each child/family. Adults are requested to form a queue outside the sandstone wall leading towards Hope University, adhering to 2m social distancing measures. Other children should not come to collect unless they are in a pram and socially distancing. Children will be brought from their 'year group bubble' at their allotted time and will stand, individually or in sibling groups, socially distanced, in front of the school building. When the first group is in place, collecting adults will enter the yard one at a time and their child/children will step forward to meet them. You will be directed around 'David's Garden' and out the left hand side of our school gate where we would request that

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you turn left or cross over Woolton Road to avoid the pavement outside school becoming too crowded.

Again, can I please reiterate that there will be no opportunity to speak to staff directly at this time to ensure a constant safe flow of children and adults.

Any children who are starting school in reception in September and **do not** have any older siblings in school, adults are requested to collect them **at 2.55pm once they have begun school full time**, by entering the EYFS yard from the gate in the car park (Salisbury Park). This will allow these children to be collected first, directly from their classroom door. Children with siblings will be taken to stand in their family groups on the main school yard.

We are staggering dismissal times according to surname to enable all members of the same household to be collected at the same time. Please do all that you can to adhere to these timings but let us know if you have any specific difficulty.

3.00pm All children with surname beginning A – B

3.05pm All children with surname beginning C – D

3.10pm All children with surname beginning E - G

3.15pm All children with surname beginning H – K

3.20pm All children with surname beginning L – Mc

3.25pm All children with surname beginning M – P

3.30pm All children with surname beginning R – S

3.35pm All children with surname beginning T – Z

This dismissal practice worked extremely well during the summer weeks when school was open to 150 key worker and vulnerable children and we anticipate that, with everybody's cooperation, these safety practices can be expanded to accommodate the full school. We will review this practice when we see it in operation and will make every effort to ensure this is as safe and efficient as possible for you, your children and our staff. Please work with us! It is essential that children leave the premises as soon as they are collected; there will be no opportunity at all for them to run around or play. We also ask that you ensure that, after leaving the premises, children don't mix closely with others outside to minimise risk.

As you can see, children who have arrived earliest will leave earliest (and vice versa). Together with slightly shortened lunch breaks, we have been able to ensure that the amount of overall teaching time has not been reduced whilst these measures need to remain in place.

Travel To and From School

We have noticed during the weeks that we have been open for children of key workers and vulnerable children that an increasing number of families have walked, cycled or scootered to school which has been fantastic to see. I have applied for funding to increase our bike storage facility. Smaller numbers and staggered starts and finishes have alleviated a lot of the issues of parking outside school and in surrounding roads. However, with our entire school due to return in September, now is the perfect time to consider school journeys. I sent out [a letter from Simon O'Brien](#), Liverpool City Region Cycling & Walking Commissioner (and also Damon Grant from Brookside, for those of us old enough to remember!) and a [safer travel guide](#) in recent weeks (click on links to read).

The Liverpool Echo reported in late-May that Mayor Anderson has commissioned a number of 'pop-up' cycle lanes around the city to minimise those using transport and maximise the

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positives of people exercising more during lockdown. The stretch of Woolton Road from the Black Woods to Taggart Avenue featured on one of those plans. You may remember that this route was prevented from becoming a mandatory cycle lane last year; however, post-Covid, decisions may well be different. I am advising you of this, at this point, to allow you time to consider alternative means of travel to/from school or alternative areas to park at some distance from school and walk the remainder, unless of course children or adults have any mobility issues.

Lunch

All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) will still receive a Universal Free School Meal. Because of a number of serious food allergies in school, it remains the case that we do not allow packed lunches from home in these year groups. Children in Years 3-6 can choose a school meal, payable on Parentmail as previously, or bring their own packed lunch.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be served their dinner in the school hall. They will be allocated a designated time in which to be served and eat their dinner in each year group bubble (allowing long enough for the fact that some children can be quite slow eaters). Between year group bubbles, tables and chairs will be thoroughly cleaned before the next year group enters. Children will also have allocated times within their year bubbles to play outside during lunchtime, without mixing with other year groups. They will also be engaged in indoor supervised 'play' activities for part of lunchtime.

In junior classes, school meals will be prepared and delivered to children in their 'bubbles' to avoid groups of children moving around the building or mixing in the dining room. Children opting for school dinners will be able to order their preference each morning. Dinners and packed lunches will be eaten at their own table in classrooms or, weather allowing, takeaway packaging also has the benefit of enabling children to eat outdoors.

If Key Stage 2 children bring their own packed lunch, we would request that, so far as possible, items are disposable to minimise what is being carried to and from school. Please stress to your child that under no circumstances are they to share food with one another.

Children's Belongings

Please ensure that your child brings the absolute minimum to school. They should wear school uniform (or PE kit) and footwear which can be used for exercise, removing the need to change. All stationery will be provided by school in individual packs; there is no need to supplement this and we respectfully ask that your children keep all of their individualised stationery for use at home. Please ensure that your child does not bring any toys or other items from home into school.

However, we do ask if your child could bring a book to read from home each day; **this should be something that they enjoy and will read for pleasure**. Children will not be able to share these books.

Cloakrooms will not be in use as it would be virtually impossible to maintain social distancing between year groups for the children. Their coat and any other belongings (e.g. **a small bag**, packed lunch, book) will be kept with them at their own individual table in the classroom.

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Please can you ensure that **any bag brought into school is as small as possible**. In the past, children have sometimes had school bags that are almost as big as they are! This term, more than ever, we ask that only small bags are used, designed to carry only the essentials needed to be transported between home and school.

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a **named** water bottle to school each day. The drinking fountains that they usually use will not be accessible; however, staff will, throughout the day, offer jugs of fresh water to refill water bottles.

Curriculum

Our staff did an incredible job during school closure to ensure that all year groups were offered a full range of daily learning experiences that, so far as possible, matched the learning intentions and objectives of our broad, balanced curriculum suitable for their age group and age-related expectations. That said, we are very aware that family experiences and 'success' of home learning will have differed dependent upon your own circumstances. This has been a time of tremendous upheaval for so many families, for many different reasons and you may remember that, from the outset, we advised you to 'adapt, amend, abandon' activities according to what was right for you and your child.

Ever mindful of children's very different experiences since we were last all together in late March, we have been working hard to put together our 'Recovery Curriculum' intended to support all children returning to school after such a prolonged time away from the familiar class and school routines. Children's well-being, sense of safety, sense of calm, faith and hope for the future will be central to all our plans, recognising that all children will have their own 'story' and experience from this time. Children's individual 'stories' are likely to include varying balance between loss: loss of the security of routine; loss of extended social contact; loss of holiday plans and other experiences; and, for some, the physical loss of loved ones; whilst for many, these last few months will also have presented positive gains: more time with parents and loved ones; greater opportunities to play and 'simply be' without the customary rush of previous life; discovery of new hobbies or talents – cooking, gardening, drawing, writing. It's essential that, as we transition back to school our curriculum is centred around ensuring that all children feel safe, secure, loved and valued back in our school family, ready to progress with learning. [Childwall CE Recovery Curriculum Intent Statement](#)

Moving forwards, our staff are highly skilled in formative assessment and will be adapting planning and learning intentions to identify and address any significant gaps in knowledge and understanding, needed to move forwards with an age-appropriate curriculum. Whilst English (particularly reading and developing vocabulary) and maths remain core for learning, we will also be ensuring that the children continue to follow a full, broad curriculum developing their creativity, values, broader knowledge, health and well-being in keeping with our full [curriculum intent offer](#).

'Government Catch Up Support' – There have been much-publicised announcements about catch up schemes and national tutoring programmes "for those who need it most"; however,

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details of how this funding will be distributed between schools and how we are to identify how/where it is spent are still awaited.

In the event of children having to isolate from school due to suspected Covid 19, in themselves or a household member, school will ensure, so far as possible, that they have access to the planned learning taking place in school over that time and engagement with this will be monitored.

In the event of a whole year group bubble being required to self-isolate due to a positive Covid 19 contact, or in the event of wider school closure, remote education will be provided for children to continue their learning at home, with engagement in learning monitored and a structure in place for submitting work and receiving feedback. We have all learned a lot over recent months about delivering learning in very different ways and there will be an expectation that, as long as Covid 19 remains a threat, we must remain prepared for some level of blended learning and differences in previous practice – e.g.) more homework activities being online, lessening the requirement for lots of paper and other items passing between school and home.

Anyone Displaying Symptoms of Covid 19

Please remember that children should not attend school if they have had symptoms in the last 7 days, or if they live with anyone who has had symptoms in the last 14 days. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- 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)
- 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.

Please notify school of the child's absence and reason for absence by telephone and follow [stay at home guidance](#).

If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of or change in their normal sense of taste or smell whilst in school, they will be sent home and advised to follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#). It is essential that the child is collected from school if requested.

If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to a ventilated room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, with appropriate adult supervision.

Children and members of their households with symptoms can get testing arranged by parents using the [NHS UK](#) website or contacting NHS 119 via telephone if they do not have internet access.

School will record and keep records of any suspected cases in case it is needed for any outbreak management.

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Management of a Confirmed Case of Covid 19

It is important that school is aware of any **positive** Covid 19 cases at the earliest opportunity. We will then be able to identify direct or close contacts who will be required to self-isolate at home for 14 days starting from the day they were last in contact with the person who has tested positive. Household members of self-isolating contacts **do not** need to self-isolate unless the contact develops symptoms themselves.

As guidance currently stands (July 2020) contacts will not be tested unless they develop symptoms. If a contact should develop symptoms then the parent/carer should arrange for the child to be tested using the [NHS UK](https://www.nhs.uk) website or contacting NHS 119 via telephone if they do not have internet access.

- Everyone in a year group bubble where there is a confirmed positive case will be sent home to isolate for 14 days, including teaching staff.
- If others from the bubble develop symptoms and test negative – they still continue to isolate for the rest of the 14 days. If they test positive – they isolate for 7 days from the beginning of their own symptoms.
- Parents and families of members of the bubble do not need to isolate. They get tested only if they develop symptoms.

As you can see, it is essential that we all work together to try to maintain the safety of the year group bubbles since any positive case would require the entire group to self-isolate. Obviously siblings will continue to mix out of school, as might identified 'social group bubbles'. However, as a school we will be taking every possible step to minimise any additional mixing and we ask you to please work with us to ensure that, wherever possible you continue this out of school. What we must work together to avoid is a situation where more than one year group, or even the entire school, is placed in a position of having to self-isolate. Children have already been disrupted beyond all our previous imaginings and we must do all that we can, as a school family, to avoid them and their education being disrupted further if it can possibly be avoided.

Attendance

With the lifting of lockdown restrictions, the government have announced that all pupils should return to school from September. Regular school attendance will therefore be expected for all children of compulsory school age and, as a school, we will be required to record attendance and follow up on absence as before. Parents/carers must notify school if your child is unable to attend and the reason for absence.

It is our shared priority and responsibility to make sure that school is, so far as possible, a safe place for all children to return and continue their learning in the autumn term. Staggered starts and finishes and leaving the school premises (and area outside) promptly will help enormously.

It is essential that any children who are ill and any children where they or any member of their household have Covid 19 symptoms stay at home. With this in mind, **we will not be operating our attendance badge rewards this academic year.**

If anybody is specifically anxious about their child returning to school because of significant risk factors, please get in touch so we can work together to ensure safety measures are in place to reduce the risk.

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