



A framework for September 2021 Re-opening

Information for Parents

September 2021

Key Points from the government guidance

The government has set out its latest guidance for schools to return in September 2021. Although restrictions have lifted across the country, schools have been advised to consider a series of measures designed to ensure the spread of COVID-19 continues to be minimised. These are detailed below.

- Vaccination - for all those eligible.
- Testing - for those with symptoms must isolate and book a PCR test and isolate until the results are known.
- Continue with LFD home-based testing for staff and secondary-age students without symptoms.
- Support positive cases to isolate, and support contact tracing of staff as per workplace guidance.
- Social distancing between staff (where feasible).
- Respiratory hygiene – for example ‘Catch it, Bin it, Kill it’.
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) – to be used in an appropriate and safe manner when managing a symptomatic/ Covid-19 positive person within the setting.
- Hand hygiene - Frequent and thorough hand cleaning should now be regular practice. You should continue to ensure that students clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser.
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents.
- Utilise staggered start and finish times and staggered lunch and break times (so long as these do not impact on the length of the school teaching day), and utilise multiple entrances and exits to and from the setting to avoid large crowding.
- Reduce the number of occasions where larger numbers of adults come into the building and where possible or advantageous to the setting/ families utilise remote connect methods.

In addition to these, a number of further measures may also be introduced in the event of an outbreak of Covid-19 on the advice of the Local Public Health team. These may include:

- Social distancing between children, namely the use of bubble management, between year groups, and/ or classes or in extreme cases where on-site provision is only retained for vulnerable children and children of critical workers.
- In some outbreak circumstances the setting may be required to contact tracing and recommend PCR tests for close contacts and self-isolation of unvaccinated adult contacts.
- Use of staggered start and finish times that require changes to the length of the school day.
- Limits on use of external adults/staff entering the building.
- Limits on trips.
- Face coverings in communal spaces /and in classrooms for staff and students.
- Daily testing or wider testing of identified/ cohorts of students and staff.

- As a last resort measure, move classes/ year group to remote learning for a specified period. NB: maintaining provision for vulnerable children/children of critical workers may still be possible.

School Organisation

The 'bubble' model adopted during the last academic year will no longer continue, however, in order to take sensible precautions against the possibility of an outbreak, we will seek to limit wider contact amongst large groups of children unless absolutely necessary.

Our lunchtime arrangements will move from a four sitting timetable to a three, and this will reduce contact across the school for children and adults during the lunchtime period. Our new sittings will therefore be:

- Early Years
- Years 1, 2 and 3
- Years 4, 5 and 6

The purpose of extending these former bubbles into slightly larger groups will be to make it logistically possible to operate an effective lunchtime service, playtimes and curriculum interventions such as Read, Write, Inc.

Within the classroom, each pupil will continue to have their own set of resources in an individual tray on their desk space, to limit movement around the class. Children will not need to bring any resources into school except their reading folder, water bottle and PE kit. Reading books will be changed on Fridays and homework will be set on our dB learning online platform.

What will my child's classroom look like?

There will be very little changes made to how the classrooms look and operate from the previous year.

- Classrooms will be well ventilated and internal doors open.
- Each child will have their own pen/pencil but resources can be used and shared within the individual class. Any shared resources across the school will continue to be thoroughly cleaned between uses.

What time will the children start and finish their school day?

- We will continue to stagger the drop off and pick up times to ensure everyone can enter and leave the site safely. Timings have changed slightly from the last academic year to reflect the easing of restrictions but also to follow government advice as to stagger start and finish times where possible.
- **We will still be operating a one way system** on the school site, however we will also utilise the **rear gate on Douglas street** as an entry & exit point in addition to the front gate as used last year. We will still be encouraging parents to walk in a clockwise direction around the school building. The exit

points from the playground will be **the rear gate (on Douglas Street)** and the **gate on Moorby Street** next to the Children’s Centre. We will keep this system under review, but may also consider opening the **gate to access Thames street at the end of the school day** if we feel that congestion in the playground is becoming a significant problem.

School day timings for each year group:	Year 6	Start at 8.50am, finish at 3.05pm.	entry & exit through the Year 6 door
	Year 5	Start at 8.50am, finish at 3.05pm.	entry & exit through the Key stage 2 site entrance
	Year 4	Start at 8.50am, finish at 3.05pm.	entry & exit through the Year 4 door
	Year 3	Start at 8.55am, finish at 3.10pm.	entry & exit through the Year 3 door
	Year 2	Start at 8.55am, finish at 3.10pm.	entry & exit through the Key Stage 1 door
	Year 1	Start at 8.55am, finish at 3.10pm.	entry & exit through the Year 1 door
	Reception	Start at 9.00am, finish at 3.15pm.	entry & exit through the reception door
	Nursery	Start at 9.00am, finish at 12.00pm.	entry & exit through the nursery door

Please can parents try to avoid arriving on the school site too early. This creates congestion and reduces the effectiveness of the staggered start and finish times. Your help in this will be greatly appreciated.

What do we ask of parents bringing pupils to school?

- Please arrive promptly at the allocated time. Teachers and teaching assistants will meet the pupils at their door in order to encourage hand sanitising.
- Please keep your own social distancing and avoid gathering.
- There are yellow line markings on the playground. Please do not encroach on these and please do not loiter talking to other parents in the school playground after dropping off your child.
- Only urgent messages should be passed onto staff at drop off. Please ring or e-mail us at info@beever.oldham.sch.uk with anything non-urgent.

What should my child wear?

- The children will need to come in their full school uniform, including school shoes. Uniform should be clean each day.
- P.E. kit should be brought into school and taken home after each use. P.E. lessons will usually take place outside so if the weather is cold, the children will need tracksuits and trainers. P.E kit is a white t-shirt with black or navy blue shorts.

Will my child need PPE?

- No children of Primary School age will need to wear a face mask, as advised by the Government.
- Most staff will not be wearing PPE equipment unless completing first aid or advised differently by their own health professional, as per Government guidelines.

Hygiene and cleanliness

- The children will be given regular reminders throughout the day on handwashing and the use of hand sanitisers. Hand sanitiser dispensers have been placed around the school, making it easy for children and adults to sanitise regularly. We will expect children to use the sanitisers as soon as they enter school in the morning.

Will there be a Breakfast club and Extra Curricular Activities?

- Breakfast club will resume on Monday 6th September.
- As from the previous academic year, the breakfast club will no longer be one in which children can turn up to on spec. We will therefore be asking parents to contact the school the day before if they will be requiring breakfast club provision for their child. If a week's provision is required, this can be arranged when contact is made. We need to do this in order to manage the pupil numbers and ensure that children accessing the provision can be safely accommodated.
- There will be no after school club provision planned initially in the Autumn term, however, this decision will be kept under review and I hope to be able to implement some after school provision at some point during this term.

Does my child have to attend school and will I be penalised if I choose not to send them?

- School attendance is once again mandatory.
- Fixed penalty fines may be issued if children do not attend.

My child sometimes has accidents and needs changing; can I bring a bag of spare clothes for them? Personal Care

- Staff are encouraged to wear PPE when undertaking personal care. This will include any First Aid or toileting needs. Seeing staff in PPE when helping a child may be distressing, particularly for younger children. If a child falls over, staff will have the option to don available PPE before attending to a child. We will try to minimize any distress, whilst adhering to government guidance and ensuring the safety of ALL of our community remains our top priority.

Children can bring a bag with spare clothes etc. into school. Staff are required to wear gloves to change a child who is wet. If a child is soiled we will contact you to pick them up and change them. If you are unable pick your child up to change them, a face mask and gloves will be worn by staff to change them.

What are the symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

The main symptom of COVID-19 are:

- a new continuous cough and/or
- fever (temperature of 37.8°C or higher)
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Children may also display gastrointestinal symptoms.

If children display any of these symptoms during a school day we will ring for you to collect them immediately and they will be kept in isolation from other children. Please ensure we have your up to date contact details.

What to do if my child develops COVID-19 symptoms

- If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must isolate and you should arrange a test for your child via <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> or by calling 119.
- Parent/Carer should notify school of their absence by phone as soon as possible
- If the test result is positive, your child will be required to self-isolate for a period of 10 days from the day that their symptoms started. Please inform us if your child has a positive test result.
- If your child's test result is negative, they can continue with their normal activities if they are well enough to do so.
- Please visit the link to Public Health England's guidance for households with possible Covid-19 infections: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

In calculating the self-isolation end date, we have used the official national test and trace guidance where the test result or onset of symptoms is considered to be day 0 of a 10 day self-isolation period and where day 11 is the day when self-isolation is lifted and your child can return to school, as set out below:



Frequently Asked Questions:

Who is considered to be a 'close contact'?

- a person who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre) with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), including:
 - being coughed on, or
 - having a face-to-face conversation, or
 - having skin-to-skin physical contact, or
 - any contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
- a person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) for more than 15 minutes
- a person who has travelled in a small vehicle *with* someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or in a large vehicle *near* someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)
- people who spend significant time in the same household as a person who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

An interaction through a Perspex (or equivalent) screen with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 is not usually considered to be a contact, as long as there has been no other contact such as those in the list above.

Which contacts need to self-isolate?

From 16 August 2021, close contacts who are fully vaccinated or those under the age of 18 will not need to self-isolate. This includes household contacts who are under the age of 18 or fully vaccinated will no longer need to isolate while symptomatic individuals await PCR test and results.

All close contacts identified will be advised to take a PCR test and so setting leaders should encourage anyone identified as a close contact by the NHS test and Trace Service to do this.

Individuals identified as close contacts will not need to self-isolate while they are awaiting the results of their test.

If the PCR test is positive, the individual must isolate and the NHS Test and Trace Service will work with them or their parent/legal guardian to identify any close contacts.

Please note:

All of the plans we have informed you of in this document remain subject to change if the Government or Local Authority recommend a course of action, at which point we will change our plans accordingly and communicate with you all once we have considered the recommendation fully.