



Urchfont C. E. Primary School

Cuckoo Corner, Urchfont, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 4RA

Tel: 01380 840793

Email: admin@urchfont.wilts.sch.uk

16th July 2020

Dear Parents,

We have now reached the end of an academic year like no other that anyone has known. Our sincere thanks goes to each and every one of you for the outstanding work you have undertaken over the last four months. We know that many of you have juggled your own work as well as supporting your children with their home learning. It has not been easy for anyone and the staff are looking forward to welcoming all the children to school in September.

As I stated in my letter earlier this week, each class will become a separate bubble, with distinct staggered break and lunchtimes. The school will follow DFE guidelines and social interaction between bubbles will be as limited as possible. As a result, we have to enforce a staggered start and end of the school day. Therefore, we are asking that you adhere to your child's arrival and end times and that you follow the one-way system that we have operated since June 1st when schools were reopened to some children. At that time, I sent a very long letter detailing the guidelines that we would require from everyone. An updated version of this has been attached to this end of term letter, so please keep it safe as it will help your child's transition back to school. If we are required to make any changes to this we will contact you at the end of the summer break, so please look out for any emails or messages via our Facebook.

I want to thank all the staff for the level of dedication and work, together with the care and concern they have had for the children over the last four months.

September will be different for all of us but we are so looking forward to having some normality. In the meantime, I believe all of us deserve a rest and I would like to wish you all a lovely summer break and look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday 2nd September as Tuesday 1st September is a TD day.

Yours Sincerely,

C.E. Talbot

Mrs CE Talbot
Head Teacher





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Coronavirus (COVID-19): School reopening arrangements for September 2020 (revised from guidance issued June 1st 2020)

14th July 2020

Dear Parents,

Following the government's announcement that all children are to return to school on 1st September 2020, I am writing to share with you the arrangements we are implementing to ensure the safety of all staff and children in the school. These arrangements follow Government guidance and were drawn up after a robust risk assessment.

We are looking forward to seeing all the children once again, but I would like to reassure you that the safety of our school community is our priority. We will continue to review the arrangements we put in place and will update you with any changes, as and when we make them.

OPENING DATE

We will reopen on Wednesday 2nd September. We will inform you via Parentpay if there are any changes to this for example in the case of a local lockdown. School would only do this if instructed by Public Health England and Wiltshire County Council.

CLASS ORGANISATION

We have been instructed by the DFE that classes will be arranged as distinct bubbles. To ensure as much social distancing as possible, children from each bubble are not allowed to mix. Adults can move between bubbles; however, this is to be limited as much as possible. To allow normal practices to take place, we have not split any year groups. Each class will be based in their own classroom.

A bubble will not be allowed to socialize with other pods and the school day will be organised to prevent children from one pod mixing with other pods. This bubble system means that if a child or adult develops symptoms of COVID -19 and subsequently test positive, then only the children in their bubble will need to self -isolate for 14 days, not the whole school. These bubbles will work, play and eat together and is the model that the DFE has instructed schools to follow.



We recognise that some of you may have some concerns about your child returning to school and that for some children another change will be unsettling for them. We also understand that the past weeks will have been challenging for many families. If you would like to talk to us about your child and any concerns you have about their return to school, please contact your child's class teacher or myself, via email.

MAINTAINING A SAFE SECURE ENVIRONMENT

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the preventative measures we have in place in order to minimise the spread of infection.

As per the advice from the government, the following actions for infection control remain in place:

- displaying coronavirus infection control measures information on posters around the school
- encouraging good hygiene by promoting the importance of handwashing for at least 20 seconds with warm water and soap in the following circumstances:
 - Before leaving home
 - On arrival at school
 - After using the toilet
 - After breaks and sporting activities
 - Before eating any food. (Please note the Infant free fruit scheme may not resume next term – if you would like to provide a piece of fruit for your child whatever class they are in, please do so.)
- installing alcohol-based hand sanitiser dispensers that contain at least 60 percent alcohol throughout the school
- ensuring children and staff understand that they must cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue, then put the tissue into a covered bin
- ensuring frequently touched objects and surfaces are cleaned and disinfected more regularly than usual
- calling Parents/NHS 111 if someone becomes unwell, isolating any unwell people in a separate room
- children will be given stationary to be kept in school, this will be for the sole use of individual children. We are asking parents to provide a named pencil case for this stationary to be kept in
- any resources that are used or played with, will be disinfected after use
- increased cleaning regimes through the day and through our cleaning contractors
- ventilating rooms by opening windows and inside doors
- removing items from the classroom that can't be cleaned and minimizing the amount of 'equipment' that the children have access too
- using the outdoors to deliver lessons as much as possible
- providing allocated desks for children
- limiting the numbers using the toilets at any one time

minimizing movement around school, walking in single file with distance between the children and adult



WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS OF ANY ILLNESS

As per the current NHS and government advice, you should keep your child at home if they develop coronavirus symptoms for a period of seven days. Symptoms include a high temperature or a new, continuous cough, and now also include a loss of taste and smell. Where symptoms continue after seven days, or begin to worsen, you should call 111. If someone in your child's household has symptoms, your child must self-isolate for 14 days from the day the other person's symptoms started. This is because it can take 14 days for symptoms to appear. More information regarding symptoms and actions can be found on the NHS website (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>).

If you think your child may have been exposed to, or has coronavirus, please contact the school on 01380 840793 or by email to admin@urchfont.wilts.sch.uk if school is closed, at the earliest opportunity. We have been given information on how tests can be booked and will share this when and if appropriate.

If your child is exhibiting any symptoms of any illness, we ask that you keep them home at this time. If your child normally has medication that needs to be administered during school hours, please can I remind you that it needs to be brought back into school as all medication was sent home when school closed in March.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE START AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

The beginning and end of the school day are the busiest times for children and adults, congregating together in one place and maintaining safe distances within normal arrangements can be a challenge. We have implemented the following measures for when children return to school:

- A) We are setting up a one-way system for the start and end of the day. We are asking that only one parent accompanies their children to school. Please can you walk down the school pathway from the green and then come onto school premises. Please can your child enter the school building as indicated above. Here we are asking you to wait in a line. We are asking parents to then leave down the school driveway. At the end of the day, please come up the school driveway and after collecting your child, leave via the school pathway. This one-way system will need to be used because of the narrowness of the school pathway from the green.
- B) We are staggering the start times for different children to ensure social distancing.

8.45am – Owls - please enter school via cloakroom

8.55am – Woodpeckers – please enter school via garden room

9.05am – Robins – please walk through the Sunflower gate and enter school through the outdoor classroom

9.05am – Chaffinches – please enter school through the fire door to your classroom

For families with children in more than one-year group, please bring all your children at the earliest slot so you can drop and go.



C) Collection at the end of the day: -

3.00pm – Owls

3.10pm – Woodpeckers

3.20pm – Robins & Chaffinches

Families with children in more than one year group, can collect all of their children at the earlier slot. At all times, we are asking parents to keep social distancing and not to stop and chat with others.

D) BASC will be in touch with parents regarding their arrangements.

E) No parents' cars are to come up the school drive unless agreed beforehand, to ensure a safe pedestrian route.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR BREAKTIMES AND LUNCHTIMES

We recognise the importance for all children to have a break from learning and to enjoy time outside during the school day. Reconnecting with friends will be an important aspect of children settling back into school life, but we have made some adjustments to break and lunch times. We will need to stagger lunch so that each bubble has a time to eat and a time to play outside in a designated area on the playground and field, weather permitting. Children from Owl's and Woodpecker's classes will eat in their classroom. Tables will be wiped using anti-bacterial wipes and sprays, before and after the children eat.

At the moment Edward and Wards will be providing a sandwich option for those children who require a provided lunch. We have asked Edward and Wards to return to a hot option as soon as possible.

Because of the dangers of COVID -19 spreading, we will need to restrict the type of games that are played together and the amount or type of play equipment that the children can use. Therefore, there will be no ball games such as netball or football.

THE SCHOOL DAY

To minimise the number of children and staff assembling for extended periods of time, we have made the following changes to the school day:

- There will be no whole school collective worship – collective worship will take place for each bubble on a daily basis.
- Classroom layout will alter to ensure that children can be seated further apart, although we have been asked to ensure social distancing as far as possible, the DFE has recognised that social distancing is difficult for primary age children. Desks will be arranged in rows and front-facing.



- Outdoor learning will take place as much as possible, where the virus is not as easily spread.
- Some outdoor PE activities may take place for example: Gymrun activities and Mini-Yoga.
- If a child requires first-aid, or intimate care for younger children, the first-aider/adult will wear PPE equipment, such as a mask, gloves and apron.

PLEASE REDUCE WHAT IS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

We are asking children to limit what is brought from home to school and visa- versa on a daily basis.

- one bag for carrying their belongings
- packed lunches in a lunch box
- home to provide water bottles, please sanitize daily – school will no longer provide children with cups
- a named pencil case to be brought and left in school – school to provide the stationary for the individual packs – we suggest a small, plain plastic pencil case, approximately 20-30 cm, will be ideal and would help enormously with day to day organisation
- reading books can now be sent home on a regular basis – however, the number sent home each week will need to be reduced because they will need to be isolated on return to school.
- home Learning will resume but may be limited to begin with
- if a bubble is to do PE, we will ask that they wear their PE kits to school – teachers will inform their bubbles the first week back when this will be.

SCHOOL EVENTS

All whole school events are postponed until further notice. As term 1 proceeds, we will need to make changes to arrangements for our normal events and will inform you on how these will operate at time within the government regulations.

We hope that this letter provides you with the information you need to support your child with their return to school. We look forward to welcoming all the children back to school in September.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs CE Talbot
Head Teacher



Mr Ian Walker
Chair of Governors

