



# Gainsborough Primary and Nursery School

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💻 [www.gainsboroughschool.co.uk](http://www.gainsboroughschool.co.uk)

**Federation Headteacher: Mrs J Booth**

**School Principal: Mrs J Nurse**

14<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

**The government has set out its plan to return all pupils in all year groups, to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term:**

*'The prevalence of coronavirus (COVID-19) has decreased, the NHS Test and Trace system is up and running and there is greater clarity about the measures required in school to create a safer environment ... The scientific evidence shows that coronavirus (COVID-19) presents a much lower risk to children than adults of becoming severely ill, and there is no evidence that children transmit the disease any more than adults. Of course, there will still be risks while coronavirus (COVID-19) remains in the community, and that is why schools and colleges will be asked to put in place a range of protective measures.'*

**The government has published guidance to support schools to prepare for opening in the autumn term and also some information for parents. You can read the guidance by following the link below:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

I wanted to write and tell you the measures we will be putting in place in order to meet government guidelines and to ensure that **all** pupils can return to school **safely** in September. I'm keen to tell you about the curriculum we have planned to help pupils to 'catch up', where necessary, and to answer some of the questions you might have about returning your child/ren to school for the autumn term.

We will be producing a new risk assessment for our return in September with details on the system of controls which will enable us to effectively reduce risk in the school and create a safer environment for everyone. We will publish this document on the website in the 'COVID-19' area.

We will be adapting the system of protective measures that we put in place when some pupils began returning to school on 15<sup>th</sup> June:

- Requiring staff or pupils who are displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) to stay at home
- Robust hand and respiratory hygiene – staff and pupils will be cleaning their hands effectively and frequently and all will be asked to practise the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to respiratory hygiene
- Enhanced cleaning arrangements – a member of the site/midday team will be available throughout the day to clean frequently touched surfaces and the site team have been asked to add additional cleaning duties to their schedule. **We will be closing the school at 13:30 on Fridays to facilitate enhanced cleaning.** In order to maintain our support for key workers, emergency childcare will operate until



**15:00 for these pupils, where there is no other option available; (please let the admin team know as soon as possible if you are eligible and require a place). In order to help other parents who may have childcare issues, our TAs will be offering some clubs in small groups on Friday afternoons (more details will be sent out in September) and 'Gainsborough Gold Stars' will operate between 13:35 and 17:45; you can book a place by following the link on the school website.**

- Pupils will be in class or, occasionally, year group 'bubbles' wherever possible and contact with other groups will be minimised.
- There will be no large gatherings; assembly, for example, is likely to take place in class 'bubbles'.
- We will minimise contact between individuals and 'social distance' wherever possible; particularly between adults and children. Desks will be forward-facing to reduce face to face contact.
- **There will be staggered arrival and departures times; the school day will start slightly earlier to accommodate this. Details of these can be found below.** Break times and lunch times will be staggered too.
- **It is still recommended that pupils limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day, to essentials such as lunch boxes, hats, coats, books, and stationery.**
- For individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, it is still recommended that pupils have their own items that are not shared. We will be providing these; if your child wishes to bring their own stationery items in to school, that can be accommodated but they must be named and **must remain in school.**
- We encourage you to walk or cycle to school to minimise contact around parking
- There is a new requirement to engage with NHS 'Test and trace' if a case of coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works> You can see more information in the box below.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Will staff wear PPE?

- We have been advised that it is not necessary for staff to wear personal protective equipment except when providing any kind of personal care to a pupil (basic first aid, for example) or when supervising a pupil who is being collected because he/she is displaying COVID-19 symptoms.

### Can my child wear a face mask?

- Face masks are not recommended for use in school or for children under the age of 5. If your child is wearing a face mask on entry in to school, we have been provided with a protocol to ensure that they can remove it safely.

### Will my child/ren go on any educational visits?

- We have been advised that it is safe to resume educational visits, subject to some additional risk assessment and the ability to continue with the precautions described above, such as frequent hand washing. We will be using the local area to engage in learning outside the classroom (LOTC) where we can. We will be unable to take part in any residential visits in the autumn term.

### Do pupils have to wear school uniform?

- We will be returning to the usual school uniform policy in September.

### **Is school attendance compulsory from September?**

- Yes. School attendance will be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term. Pupils of compulsory age must be in school unless a statutory reason applies (granted a leave of absence, is sick or for a necessary religious observance, for example). The government have indicated that parents may be issued sanctions from September, including fines, if children are not in school.

### **What if my child has a medical condition or if I, or a member of my family, is 'shielding'?**

- The government have offered the following information: "Shielding advice for all adults and children will pause on 1 August, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission of coronavirus. This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can also return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding ... parents of some pupils who are under the care of a specialist health professional may wish to discuss their child's care with the relevant professionals before returning to school". ***Please contact us if you have received clinical advice which suggests that your child should not return to school in September.***

### **What will children be taught in the autumn term?**

- We will be teaching a broad curriculum in all subjects from the start of the autumn term, but have planned a careful 'recovery curriculum' to create time to cover the most important missed content for all pupils. **There will be an emphasis on reading** and we hope that you will help with this by encouraging your child/ren to read very regularly at home. Teachers will informally assess each pupil's starting points early in the autumn term so that they can plan each child's provision going forward. **We plan to return to our normal curriculum by the summer term 2021.**

### **What about reading books?**

- We will be unable to change books as regularly as usual but hope to keep some home – school book scheme going by putting books in to 'quarantine' between pupils. We are hopeful that your child/ren will be able to take a book home each week.

### **What about formal assessment?**

- The early years foundation stage profile, and all existing statutory key stage 1 and 2 assessments, will return in 2020-2021 in accordance with their usual timetables. There will be a phonics screening check for Y1 pupils, Y2 pupils will complete end key stage 1 tests and teacher assessments, Y4 pupils will tackle the new national multiplication tables check and Y6 will be subject to the usual end of key stage 2 tests and assessments.

### **What about lunch and snack arrangements?**

- We will be resuming our usual lunch menu. Children will eat in the hall in year group 'bubbles'. Children bringing a packed lunch will eat in their classroom.
- ***Snack will be offered every day in school. The choice available will be; toast, juice or milk at a cost of 30p per item. Due to current circumstances, the school cannot accept any cash so snack and lunch will need to be ordered and paid for via the new 'School Gateway' system. This app can be downloaded to your phone and will give you up to date information of any payments that have been made to school for dinners, snacks and educational visits. For details on how to download***

***the app, please refer to the School website or the email previously sent. Money can be kept on your child's account and snacks ordered from home preferably a week in advance or even per half term, whatever is most suitable for you. There will be a choice of 5 Items available to order each day:***

***Toast***

***Juice***

***Milk***

***Toast and juice***

***Toast and milk***

***Only 1 item can be ordered per day so please take care to select the correct choice if wanting toast and a drink. You will see your balance reducing as snacks are ordered. Once orders are placed at registration each day, the lists will be printed and sent to the kitchen. Apologies, NO LATE ORDERS can be accommodated once this list has been printed. The snacks will then be delivered to classrooms at break times.***

***You will need to pay for child/ren's school lunch in the same way. Your child/ren will be unable to order snack or lunch if there is not a balance on your account.***

***The free fruit scheme will resume; pupils in key stage 1 will be offered a piece of fruit or vegetable every day.***

#### **Will there be after school clubs?**

- We have asked staff to offer opportunities for pupils to 'catch up' on basic skills in after school clubs in the autumn term. These are likely to be in single year groups in order to maintain 'bubbles'.
- Sportscape will be offering some year group bubble sports clubs.

#### **What if my child cannot follow the new guidelines?**

- We will be updating our behaviour policy to reflect the latest expectations around distancing and reducing risk; we will be building the new expectations in to our reward system.
- We will be setting clear, reasonable and proportionate expectations of pupil behaviour, especially in relation to hygiene rules and 'no touch' guidance
- We will be using a range of strategies to deal with incidents of poor behaviour, in particular, in relation to the new expectations. We may seek support from parents where a pupil is clearly putting others at risk.

#### **What if my child becomes unwell?**

- If anyone has a cough/temperature/feels unwell at school, they will be sent home. They will need to self-isolate for 7 days, or until tested negative. Anyone in the child's household will need to self-isolate for 14 days.

- If a child or adult shows symptoms and tests positive for CoVid-19, then the whole group that the child/adult was in must be sent home and they must self-isolate for 14 days. At this point we will seek advice from the local health protection team (LHPT).
- ***Staff and children should not attend if they have symptoms or are self-isolating due to symptoms in their household.***

### What if there is an outbreak in school?

- If the school experiences an outbreak, either because we have 2 or more confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) among pupils or staff within 14 days, or because we see an increase in pupil or staff absence rates due to suspected or confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19), we will contact our local health protection team. This may result in some restriction to attendance.
- Where an outbreak is confirmed, a mobile testing unit may be dispatched to test others who may have been in contact with the person who has tested positive. Testing will first focus on that person's class, followed by their year group, then the whole school, if necessary.
- If the local area sees a spike in infection rates that is resulting in localised community spread, decisions will be made on what measures to implement to help contain the spread. The government will be involved in decisions and will support local schools to follow the health advice.
- In all cases, where groups of pupils need to self-isolate or where a larger restriction of attendance is needed, we have made plans to ensure that children's education can continue **remotely**; we envisage offering the online lessons that worked so well in the summer term and giving parents access to a range of physical and virtual resources.

### Managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 in schools

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)', which sets out that they must **self-isolate for at least 7 days** and should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms. School will seek advice from the local health protection team (LHPT) if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the school. Based on the advice of the LHPT, schools must send home those people who have been in close contact with anyone who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days, beginning from the day they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. Close contact means:

- Direct close contacts – face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical (skin to skin) contact
- Proximity contacts – extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes with an infected individual)
- Travelling in a small vehicle with an infected individual

The LHPT will advise schools about which groups in the school must be sent home.

***The school will keep a record of pupils and staff in each group to aid this process It is expected that all schools will be provided with a small number of home testing kits in the autumn term.***

## How can I contact the school?

- ***The school office will remain closed in September to contact in person, except in the case of a prior-arranged appointment.*** Please email the school or contact us by telephone:

[admin@gainsborough.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@gainsborough.cheshire.sch.uk)

Tel: 01270 685328

***Please note that the school office will be closed to all contact after 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020 until 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020.***

We want to reassure you that we will be following all the guidelines provided and making the school environment as safe as possible. We want to encourage you to bring your child/ren back to school. If there is anything else that you think we can do to support you, please get in touch.

It's been a strange old summer term and we are keen to reengage with all our pupils and parents. We have made careful plans to keep everyone as safe as possible and to offer an exciting and fast paced curriculum which will provide what our pupils need. We look forward to welcoming you on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

In the meantime, please accept my best wishes for a lovely summer break.

With my warmest regards,

A J Booth

A J Booth

Federation Headteacher

## Gainsborough Primary & Nursery School

### Drop-off and Collection times September 2020

Year Group	Drop-Off Time	Pick Up Time Mon - Thursday	Pick Up Time Friday	Location
Nursery	08:45 – 08:50	11:45 – 11:50 Or 14:45 – 14:50	11:45 – 11:50	Nursery door
Reception	08:40 – 08:50	14:50	13:20	EYFS gate
Year 1	09:00 – 09:10	15:10	13:30	EYFS gate
Year 2	08:50 – 09:00	15:00	13:25	EYFS gate
Year 3	08:45 – 08:55	14:50	13:20	KS2 gate
Year 4	09:00 – 09:10	15:10	13:30	KS2 gate
Year 5	08:50 – 09:00	15:00	13:25	KS2 gate
Year 6	08:40 – 08:50	14:50	13:20	KS2 gate