

Uffington Plan for the Reopening of Schools with effect from September 2020



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

<p>My main worry is childcare. Can my children attend Reach for the Stars and still be with their class in their own class bubble?</p>	<p>All children will be taught in their class bubble but can still attend Reach for the Stars. RFTS have their own guidance from the DfE, also based on the principles of separation and distancing. They will maintain social distancing and maximise use of outdoor space, as far as is practicable.</p>
<p>My child comes to school by taxi. Will this service be available, and will the children have to wear a face covering?</p>	<p>The school transport system is already operational. There is no requirement at the present time for a face covering to be worn on the school taxi and children from different bubbles are permitted to travel together.</p>
<p>What items should the children bring in with them?</p>	<p>The only items a child should bring in with them are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coat ▪ Water bottle ▪ Packed lunch (<i>unless you have ordered or are entitled to a cooked lunch</i>) ▪ Sun cream and hat ▪ Emergency medication, e.g. inhalers ▪ Indoor shoes for PE days ▪ School sweatshirt / cardigan (<i>windows will be open for ventilation so it may get chilly!</i>) ▪ Spare clothes (<i>EYFS only</i>) <p>KS2 only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fresh fruit for morning snack ▪ Pencil case if desired (<i>the following may be useful but can also be provided by the school: coloured crayons; sharpener with integrated 'bin'; rubber; fine coloured pens; blue / green rollerball pens for writing</i>)

<p>Will staff and children have to wear a face covering in school?</p>	<p>Government guidance makes it clear that face coverings are not required in schools. The only exception is when a child requires intimate care or is displaying the symptoms of the virus. If staff or children arrive at school wearing a face covering, there is a clear protocol for its safe removal and disposal / storage.</p>
<p>How will play times be arranged so that children do not mix with each other?</p>	<p>Children will have their play times as a class group. The staggered timings during the day allow us to spread out the use of our outdoor space. A set of playtime equipment will be allocated to each classroom bubble and cleaned down at the end of each break.</p>
<p>Can my child bring their own play equipment into school?</p>	<p>Children in KS2 will be encouraged to bring a named racket / bat and ball for their own use at playtime, and occasional use in PE. Children may also bring a named skipping rope. Footballs will not be permitted.</p>
<p>Will the free and subsidised milk resume in September?</p>	<p>Yes. This service will resume in September.</p>
<p>My children are in Reception and KS1. Will they receive free fruit each day?</p>	<p>We expect this service to resume in September.</p>
<p>Will the water chiller be available?</p>	<p>No. Children need to bring in their own wide-necked water bottle which can be easily refilled from a jug. Please make sure the bottle is clearly named and fill before leaving home.</p>
<p>How will lunchtimes work?</p>	<p>We will introduce a rolling lunch time from September with all children having a 45-minute break with time to eat and play. There will be two sittings for lunch with thorough cleaning in between. Children will be seated away from the other bubble using the dining room at the same time, and children in Y5/6 will eat packed lunches in the classroom. The playground (and field when the weather allows) will be split into two separate play spaces at lunchtime.</p>

<p>I am worried that my children have fallen behind while school has been closed. What will be done to help them catch up?</p>	<p>We understand that many children will have fallen behind in their learning. Once they have settled back into the routine of school, we shall conduct individual assessments to confirm where the gaps are. As always, teachers will work hard to match learning to the age and stage of the individual child. Some children will receive additional support within the classroom from their teachers and teaching assistants. The government have promised funding for tuition but no further information is available at the current time.</p>
<p>Is there anything I can do with my child over the summer to prepare them for September?</p>	<p>We would always encourage children to read as much as they can over the holidays. For the younger children this may take the form of enjoying stories together although most older children love to be read to as well. Please make sure that your child has the opportunity to spend time talking with the family each day rather than spending too much time on electronic devices.</p> <p>Having said this, there are some wonderful resources on line: we would really recommend practising number facts, including times tables for Y2 upwards, on Education City and other platforms.</p>
<p>My child has special educational needs. What support will there be?</p>	<p>All individual plans will be reviewed in September. Some children do need personal care and therapies which require contact – these have been risk-assessed and will resume with minor adjustments such as the wearing of PPE. Where children would normally receive support from visiting specialists, these sessions are expected to resume in September.</p>
<p>My child is very anxious about the return to school. What support will there be for emotional health and well-being?</p>	<p>We recognise that some children are anxious about coming back to school. All children will be supported through transition activities and engage in The Five Ways to Well-being programme on a daily basis. Where children are really struggling, a programme of individual / small group support will be explored.</p>

<p>Will you still have visitors and volunteers in school?</p>	<p>We will continue to limit the number of additional adults on site to those who are essential, such as specialist services e.g. speech therapists. Other non-essential visitors such as volunteers and visiting speakers will not be returning to school at the moment.</p>
<p>Will there be any after-school clubs?</p>	<p>Woodwind lessons will resume in September via Zoom as these have continued throughout lockdown – these will take place in a well-ventilated room with a maximum of two children playing side by side. We hope that some other clubs will be able start after half term.</p>
<p>What will happen with the autumn curriculum meetings and parents' evenings?</p>	<p>We are hoping to run these remotely on MS Teams if possible (or by telephone), but further information will be released in due course.</p>
<p>Will the children come together for collective worship and other whole-school events?</p>	<p>No. One of the main control measures is to minimise mixing. Daily worship will take place in classrooms. Sadly, we will not be able to celebrate the special events that mark the pattern of the school year including the Nativity and Carols Around the Tree this year.</p>
<p>When will swimming lessons resume?</p>	<p>This is uncertain at the moment. We will only resume swimming once the pool is open and we are satisfied that appropriate control measures are in place. If numbers are restricted, we will focus on those children who have yet to achieve the 25m distance award.</p>
<p>Will the school take part in local and district sporting competitions?</p>	<p>Not at the moment. The situation will remain under review depending upon government advice.</p>

SUSPECTED AND CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19

<p>Is a child going to be sent home just because they have a cough?</p>	<p>We are required to take a robust and precautionary approach to anyone on site with any one, or more, of the three main Covid-19 symptoms. We will be sending such persons home and advising that they take a test. We anticipate that everyone will support and follow this advice. In any event, we will be keeping a register of everyone sent home for testing and no-one will be allowed to re-enter the building for the recommended self-isolation period as advised by the Government without a negative test result being received. We will ask to see evidence of the test results before the person can return to school.</p> <p>Children who are unwell should not be in school whether they have coronavirus or the usual colds and other viruses that can make them poorly.</p>
<p>What will happen if the teacher is ill or self-isolating and cannot come into school?</p>	<p>We will make every effort to deploy existing staff to cover staff absence, engaging supply staff as a last resort in order to keep the school open.</p>
<p>What if there is a further period of national or local lockdown?</p>	<p>We will be guided by Public Health England and other government agencies. In the event of a further school closure, a full curriculum offer will be provided through our remote learning platforms.</p>
<p>Would the school have to close altogether if too many bubbles are closed, or if too many staff members are unwell or self-isolating?</p>	<p>Yes. The virus has not disappeared but its prevalence in the community is such that re-opening is currently possible. This situation may change. The Health Protection Agency is keeping the situation under review and will liaise with the school if the situation changes. It is, of course, incumbent upon all of us in the community to work together and follow the guidance to avoid this happening.</p>
<p>How long will these measures be in place?</p>	<p>We anticipate that these measures will apply until Easter 2021 but the plan will be under constant review depending upon the local and national situation.</p>

If you have any other queries, please contact Mrs Simms via
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