



Frequently Asked Questions – Reopening for all children in September

When will the children start back at school?

- Children in Year 1 and 2 will start back at school on Thursday 3rd September. Please arrive on time at your allocated time.
- Reception children are invited to attend an induction day either on Thursday 3rd September, Friday 4th September or Monday 7th September. All Reception children will be in school from Tuesday 8th September.
- We are operating a staggered start for Nursery children. This begins on Monday 7th September.

Do they need to wear uniform?

- Yes, we expect all children to wear full uniform. The exception to this is; as we will continue to spend more time outside, the children may wear trainers or school shoes for the autumn term.
- Please make sure that they have Velcro fastenings unless your child is able to tie their laces independently.
- Please ensure that your child also has some tracksuit bottoms in their PE bag, so that they can wear them as the weather gets colder. These can be blue or grey.
- If your child is wearing a hair band, we ask that it is simple in design and in the school colours.

What is the procedure for dropping off and picking up my child?

- Each class has been allocated a time at which children are to be dropped off.
- Only one adult may accompany their child onto the school site. Please enter the school via the correct gate and follow the one way system, (we will send you a video of this in September before school starts).
- Please wait with your child on the red footprints or if you are on the pavement next to a queuing sign.
- Once you have dropped off your child, please leave the site as quickly as possible.
- Unfortunately, we are unable to change drop off or pick up times, as we need to ensure that the number of families on site are kept to a minimum.
- Please do not congregate in the playground or outside the gates. When you are queuing please make sure that you keep your child with you at all times.

I have two children at school, one who has a drop off time at 8:40 and the other at 9:30?

- If you are able to drop your children off at their allocated time we would ask that you do this.

- However we do appreciate that we will need to be flexible, and if you are unable to, please drop your children off at the earliest drop off and pick up time e.g. in the example above you would drop off your first child at 8:40 then leave the school via the one way system and re-enter the school to drop your other child off.
- You will need to tell the class teacher that you are doing this as a member of staff will need to come and collect your child from you.

What should I do if I am late to school?

- If you are late for your allocated drop off time, please come to the main office via Cuddington Avenue, press the intercom, the office staff will let the staff in your child's class know you are at the door and will come and collect your child.

Can I bring a sibling who does not attend the school with me to drop off/collect my child?

- Where possible we ask that siblings remain at home with an adult, but if this is not possible they may come into the school for drop off and pick up but must remain with their parent at all times.

I use a childminder to drop-off and collect my child, what arrangements are in place for them?

- Your childminder must drop-off and collect your child according to the one way system. It is the responsibility of parents to share the details with their childminders and make sure they are clear about the arrangements and times of drop off and pick up.

My child attends Chill Out, will they be able to drop off and pick up even though the times are staggered?

- Yes, we have worked closely with Chill Out and they are able to accommodate those times.

What hygiene measures are in place?

- We have hygiene kits in each classroom, including disinfectant spray and wipes.
- Resources, surfaces and touch points are all cleaned regularly.
- Most soft furnishings and resources that cannot be easily cleaned have been removed from classrooms.
- Children are expected to wash their hands multiple times throughout the day; members of staff will be available to support and supervise handwashing where it is appropriate.
- We have plenty of tissues and remind children about good nasal hygiene.
- Children are taught to cough into their elbow.
- We have supplies of hand-gel throughout the school and children are expected to use this regularly (in addition to handwashing).
- Please do let the class teacher know if your child is unable to use hand gel.

- We are also having permanent out door sinks installed in all of the outdoor areas.

How will you maintain social distancing?

- The reality is that to fit all children into the classrooms, they will be in close proximity to each other. The DFE has accepted that children will need to be sat close to one another but where it is possible to do so, the children will sit side by side and will not face each other.
- The DFE have also recognised that young children will not be able to maintain social distancing and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their own class bubble or their appropriate year group.
- The children will remain in their class bubbles for the duration of the day.
- Lunch times and playtimes are staggered and the outdoor space has been zoned into areas for class bubbles.
- Each class bubble will have their own play equipment in their own playground zone.

Will the children share resources?

- For individual and very frequently used equipment such as pencils and pens, children will have their own resources where possible.
- Other resources such as games, books, small world, and construction toys can be shared in class bubbles and if appropriate in year groups. These resources will be cleaned regularly along with all frequently touched surfaces.

What will children need to bring from home?

- Children will be required to bring a named water bottle and sun hat.
- They will be required to bring their book bag to school but we would ask that you regularly wipe these down using disinfectant spray or wipes.
- Nursery children who stay for lunch will be required to bring a lunch box. Again we would ask you to regularly wipe these down using disinfectant spray or wipes.
- Reading books will be sent home, when they are returned they will be quarantined for 72 hours. Your child will read a book that is kept at school to the adults. We will also continue to use the on-line reading scheme
- Please do not allow your child to bring in toys or trinkets.
- Children must not bring any other items to school unless this has been agreed by the class teacher.

What happens if a child gets ill in my child's class?

- Under no circumstances should any child or member of staff displaying symptoms of Covid-19 attend school.
- The main symptoms are a high temperature, a persistent cough and the loss of smell or taste. If in any doubt we would rather children were kept off school as we must all err heavily on the side of caution and follow the Government guidelines.

- Staff and pupils are required to have immediate tests if they show symptoms.
- If a child is sent home with symptoms, we expect parents to arrange a test for their child.
- We will request evidence of a negative test result (i.e. the text message or email from the NHS) before the child is allowed back to school.
- If a positive test result is received the staff and children within the class will need to self-isolate for 14 days. Public Health England will carry out a risk assessment and advise the school whether any more classes need to self-isolate or indeed the whole school.
- If a member of a child's household tests positive for Covid, the child and the household members must self-isolate for 14 days. The other children and staff in the class do not have to self-isolate.
- Thermometers will be used if any child or adult displays symptoms and their temperature will be taken.
- Any child who displays any symptoms of Covid must be collected immediately and we expect parents and families to make provision if they are not based in the local area during the school day.
- When the child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to a room where they can be isolated. They will be cared for by a familiar adult.
- The adult supervising the child will wear full PPE clothing when dealing with a suspected case; this includes a face mask, face shield/ visor, apron and gloves.

What happens if my child hurts themselves?

- Trained first aiders will be in each class and staff will care for the children in the same way they always have, it may just mean that they are wearing PPE now.

How will I let the class teacher know information?

- You are able to ring the school office or send emails to office@mead.surrey.sch.uk
- From September you will also be able to email the class teacher via the class email address.

What should I do if my child is upset going into school?

- Reassure your child and explain what is going to happen, talk about the positive things that will happen.
- We will be unable to take your child from you but we will talk to them and reassure them.

What will happen at lunchtime?

- Lunchtimes have been staggered and timetabled so that class bubbles will eat and play in the playground at different times.

- Children will wash their hands before eating in their classrooms; tables will be cleaned before the packed lunches provided by the kitchen are given out.
- Nursery children will be expected to bring a packed lunch as they are not eligible for a free school lunch until they join Reception.

Do the normal rules and expectations still apply?

- Absolutely! We have very high expectations of the children's behaviour and we expect all children to still follow our Good Choices.
- However, we recognise that children returning to school may struggle with the change and we will be mindful of this.
- We will continue to use our Zones of Regulations to support children in discussing their emotions and finding strategies to self-regulate and be happy and ready to learn.

How will you make sure the children settle into their new class and teachers?

How are you going to support their wellbeing after such a difficult time?

- The activities at the beginning of the term will be planned to support the transition for everyone. We understand that lots of children will not have been in school for over 5 months, so the staff are planning to take their time to make sure that the children settle in.
- The children will revisit our school motto "Proud to belong", values and expectations. To support this the whole school will be learning through the topic "Proud to Belong" for the first few weeks.
- The topic will have a focus of well-being, re-establishing relationships and learning behaviours.
- To help us, please explain what will be happening, don't let it be a surprise on the first day, share the videos and welcome presentation with your child.
- Tell them that all the staff are looking forward to seeing them again and that together we will all work together to ensure that they are happy and safe.

How will you help the children to 'catch up'?

- Our priority is around wellbeing and health.
- When the children have settled in, their teachers will assess them and will plan support for anyone who needs additional help in Reading, Writing and Maths.
- All teachers and leaders have reviewed the curriculum and adjusted our plans so that it enables the children to repeat aspects they may need to, but also supports rapid progress.

Everyone's health and safety is our priority and we hope that, by reading this, all parents and families are reassured that the school staff are taking every possible measure to create a happy, healthy and safe learning environment for all our community.