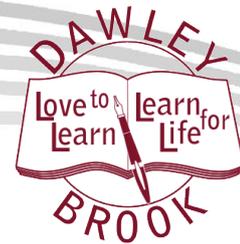


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Dawley Brook Return Plan

8th March – 1st April



March 2021

The latest Government advice has stated that the risk of transmission between children remains very low and schools are being encouraged to return to full attendance. This plan is adapted from that prepared for September 2020.

As far as possible, we will be following the principles of heightened hygiene measures, isolation of class bubbles wherever possible by staggered starts, breaks and lunchtime sittings.

Which Classes?

All classes will be returning to a more 'normal' day. There are a number of measures we will take to minimise remaining risk of Covid during the school day which are outlined in the following sections. Government guidance states that attendance at this time is compulsory.

If parents are concerned about whether their child's medical condition could put them at risk they should consult their GP.

Which Rooms and Staff?

Classes will return to their normal classrooms with their allocated class teacher where guidance permits. They will also be supervised at times during the week by other staff during lunchtimes. Staff will maintain high levels of hygiene and distancing to reduce the risk of transmission.

The Hall is a transition space and not to be used for classes. Teaching activities that would normally use the hall such as PE must take place outside if weather permits. Should this not be the case, activities to learn about healthy lifestyles may be completed in classrooms instead.

The ICT suite will not be available for classes to use. We have purchased additional devices to allow some limited use of technology in separate classrooms.

What timetable will we be running?

The day will be staggered to prevent large gatherings arriving at school at the same time. The basic day will return to a close to standard day. We recognise that several different start and finish times will be unmanageable for parents so we will use different entrances for different year groups to minimise this. We ask that only one adult brings children onto premises and observes social distancing whilst on premises and moving between entrances. Please do not arrive too early or wait on premises after dropping off or picking up children. Should we be unable to maintain distancing in this way, we will make the decision to stagger the times of the day instead.

To maintain security of bubbles we will be closing at 1:10pm (Reception, Y2, Y4 and Y6) or 1:20pm (Y1, Y3 and Y5) each remaining Friday of the Spring Term. (12th, 19th and 26th March). Nursery will continue their usual Friday afternoon session.

The motivations for this temporary change are as follows:

- With the incidence of cases locally and within our wider school community, each bubble will be taught wherever possible by their named class teacher. This will increase the safety and integrity of each bubble.
- Without making this change, at least one class would have been closed until the end of shielding guidance. This small change to the weekly timetable will keep all classes in school at this time which is preferable to the disruption the closure of one class would make.
- We are taking measures to ensure classes are taught by our own staff instead of external contractors such as supply staff to maintain a high level of Covid security. This does not affect regular external staff, such as the PE coach, who follow specific risk assessments we have prepared.

There will be a very small number of emergency childcare places each of these Fridays strictly for children where both parents are key workers AND on shift at that time with no other childcare options. Please contact Mr. Walters on mwalters@dawley.dudley.sch.uk if this is the case.

The basic school day will be 8:40 am to 3:00pm or 8:50am to 3:10pm. We are using 2 entrances onto external school premises and 4 separate entrances for children to enter the school building.

Wraparound care will be available for any child requiring it but parents must book this in advance. Children will be allocated a table in the room according to their year group and to maintain distancing between bubbles.

Teaching staff working with classes will be arriving and leaving school at times closely aligned to the timetable. This should restrict contact with other adults in school. They should be mindful of moving round the building using the directional system and not entering other classrooms than their own. Staff moving round the building will be wearing face coverings in line with the updated guidance on [Face coverings in education](#).

What pick up and drop off restrictions are we putting in place?

The timetable has been staggered to support there being the minimum number of adults accessing the school site at any one time. We will also minimise risk by allocating groups a specific entrance onto the school site and into school which minimises the transit through the building and the number of adults congregating in one place.

To access the site, parents should use either the Nursery gate or the main pedestrian access down the slope.

The following access should be used:

Class	Time	Premises entrance	Building entrance
Nursery	9:00 to 3:30	Nursery gate	Nursery/Reception door. Please follow the arrows to access.
Reception	8:40 to 3:00		
Year 1	8:50 to 3:10	Main pedestrian entrance	Key Stage 1 door
Year 2	8:40 to 3:00		
Year 3	8:50 to 3:10	Nursery gate	Key Stage 2 door
Year 4	8:40 to 3:00		
Year 5	8:50 to 3:10	Main pedestrian entrance	Side gate directly to classroom doors
Year 6	8:40 to 3:00		

We will ask that children are dropped off/picked up by a single adult where possible and that adults socially distance whilst onsite, wear face coverings and do not remain on school premises after their child has been dropped off or picked up. Start and end times are staggered by 10 minutes to minimise numbers but this will only work if school and parents are able to be prompt.

What curriculum will we be providing?

We will be following a full school curriculum. Activities will be adapted where needed to reduce the risk of transmission, but the government is confident that this risk is already low and can be managed within a 'normal' school day. We will not be holding whole school assemblies but children will be having class assemblies based on the same subjects or events. We will not be providing after school activity clubs at this time, but will review this at Easter when the situation will be assessed to decide whether it will be appropriate to provide clubs in the Summer Term.

What measures will we take during the day to minimise risk?

Handwashing

Upon entry to school, children and adults will be asked to wash their hands. Handwashing will be encouraged regularly through the day including before and after break times, lunch and after using the toilet. There will be access throughout the building to hand sanitiser. Handwashing should be with soap and water and for at least 20 seconds. Posters will encourage proper methods of handwashing.

Uniform

Children should come into school in uniform. Adults in school are also encouraged to wear more casual clothing which is easily changed at home and washed.

We hope to spend more time in groups outside. Children should bring a coat and wear sensible shoes. We will still go outside if it is raining (within sensible limits.) so coats must be waterproof. The cloakrooms will not be in use so coats will be taken into classrooms with children.

We will also be asking children to come into school in PE kit on days that they have PE. We will communicate the days to all parents once the timetable is finalised.

Own equipment

Children do not need to bring equipment from home. We have purchased additional resources to make a separate pack of equipment for each child. Equipment will not be shared where possible. Children should be encouraged to look after their separate equipment. We will be using some shared equipment for subjects such as art or music, but this will be cleaned between uses. There will be materials available to wipe equipment in classrooms.

Children should bring a full water bottle to school each day. This should be clearly labelled with their name to avoid confusion. The water fountains will remain in operation, but we will be organising their use to help minimise contact between class 'bubbles'. The water fountains have been upgraded to be operated by means of a foot pedal to minimise hand contact.

Corridors

All areas of transit in the school will be marked as follows:

- Where we are able floors will be marked with yellow tape to put in place one-way systems. This includes corridors and the hall. Tape will be placed across to indicate 2 metre distancing and the direction of travel, helping children and adults to judge how to remain socially distanced.
- Areas which cannot be made one way will be indicated by red tape to advise anyone to be aware of where other people are positioned.
- Where possible, transitions should take place through external doors to the outside.

Toilets

We do not have enough toilets to limit use to particular classes but will encourage children not to enter toilets if they are already in use. Additionally we will ensure children wash their hands.

Children will be encouraged to use the toilet at staggered breaktimes to try to minimise any crossover of class bubbles. No more than 1 child from each class bubble will be allowed to use the toilets at any one time but this may still mean that there are more than one child in the set of toilets. If children are waiting to use the toilet they will be encouraged to remain at 2 metre distance whilst waiting. Children will not be stopped from going to the toilet, we will just ensure risk can be minimised when using communal areas.

It would be helpful if parents can encourage children to use the toilet directly before coming to school.

Table cleaning

Each child will have an allocated desk. If cases of Covid19 occur in the school population this will facilitate effective 'Test and Trace' activities. Desks will be cleaned regularly through the day as outlined in guidance and at least at the start of the day, before and after break and lunchtimes and at the end of the day. Children will remain at their desk when in the classroom. There will not be partner or group activities which would mean close contact. Cleaning will be done by a member of staff with appropriate training in the use of chemicals and relevant PPE.

Areas of the school that cannot be cleaned appropriately between different class bubble activities will not be used. This includes the ICT suite (or computers), the teaching kitchen, the library and the hall.

How will breaktimes and lunch be managed?

Catering Services will be providing a more limited menu of hot lunches which can be ordered as normal. We will ask that lunch money is put into clearly marked envelopes and placed in the classroom basket during registration. Children can bring their own packed lunches, but we will ask that parents follow the same principles as staff will not be able to open packaging due to social distancing principles.

To maintain social distancing where possible, lunch sittings will be staggered so that bubbles are using the hall in a secure and distanced way at one time. To support this, if the weather is good, we may use outside picnic areas for children to eat packed lunch. We will be mindful of children wanting to eat with particular classmates but may not be able to accommodate this so ask that parents support us to share this with children.

Groups will have breaks throughout the day, separated from other groups by time (break rota) or physical distance.

There will be no 'Tuck' shop. Children should bring a snack in from home that they can open without assistance from staff if they wish. Parents are reminded that food brought into school should not contain nuts.

Children will be discouraged from sharing food. Parents are asked to speak to their child about this before their child returns to school.

Transit from the classroom to outside spaces should be through direct external doors where possible.

What physical changes will we make to minimise risk?

Bins

All bins in classrooms have been changed to bins with lids as in guidance. Rubbish from bins will be collected regularly through the day, double-bagged and kept securely for 72 hours before being disposed of.

Children will be encouraged to use disposable tissues if needed and discard them immediately after use.

Rubbish from packed lunches brought from home will be put back into lunchboxes and bags to be taken home. Rubbish from grab bags will be placed in the bins at school.

Desks

Desks have been moved to make as much space as possible between each desk and the Teacher/TA space at the front of the room. Children will remain at desks and due to space constraints are unlikely to be taking part in carpet work.

Equipment

Children will have their own equipment packs in a wipeable bag. They will not be sharing equipment. If equipment is used such as counting cubes, this will be collected and cleaned before it is reused by anyone.

Shared equipment will only be accessible where we are sure that it can be cleaned between uses. This includes EYFS where children will not be taking part in continuous provision or activities that involve sharing toys and equipment. This will also include class libraries. Children will be supported to choose and return a book safely when needed.

Wherever possible, material and soft furnishings which cannot be wiped have been removed from classrooms.

Bags

If children bring bags from home they will be brought into the classroom and placed under the desk to minimise the trip hazard. Where possible, bags should only contain items needed that day (lunch box, spare clothes). Children should not bring in any other items from home. Please be mindful of the limited space in the classroom and try to avoid large bags where possible.

Marked out corridors

All areas of transit have been marked out to support social distancing and indicate areas where care should be taken to avoid close contact. This has been outlined earlier.

What happens if a child requires intimate or medical care?

If a child needs to be changed this will be done by 2 members of staff wearing appropriate PPE. This will include an apron, gloves, a mask and visor. As this is likely to be younger children it is important that parents prepare their child that they may see staff in PPE.

The area where the child has been changed should be identified and cleaned as soon as possible.

First aid or medical care will be provided by trained staff members who will be wearing PPE to reduce any risk of transmission.

What happens if a child or member of staff becomes ill?

See Dawley Brook Risk Assessment which specifies the procedure.

This document should be read alongside the Dawley Brook Coronavirus Covid19 Risk Assessment Action Plan (March 2021). It should also be noted that the situation is liable to change and any measures in this document and the risk assessment will be adapted to meet current need, guidelines and requirements.

It should also be noted that the measures in this document are in place to minimise risk. At no point should there be an assumption that we are able to make attendance at school fully safe for children, parents or staff.