

St Christopher's Whole School opening from September 2020 – Frequently Asked Questions

1/ Will the whole school be open in September?

Yes, all the children will be returning to school in September.

We will be open every day – Monday to Friday.

However, the Nursery will only open for morning sessions and 30-hour provision.

2/ How will the school be keeping our children safe?

The children will remain in their class groups all day. In order to minimise potential infection, they will not be able to mix with children from other classes, so the break and lunchtimes will be separate. The staff in each class will stay the same all day.

An updated risk assessment will be sent out nearer to the start of term.

3/How will you keep the number of adults low around the school site?

We will operate a flexible start time in the morning. Parents will be able to drop their children at any time between 8.30am and 9.00am. Hopefully, this will mean there are fewer people walking around the school site.

In the afternoon, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children should be collected between 2.45pm and 3.00pm. Children in Years 3-6 should be collected between 3pm and 3.15pm. We would encourage Year 5 and Year 6 children to walk/cycle home independently.

Only 1 adult from each family should enter the school site. Everyone will be expected to maintain social distancing from other families on the school site, and must stay behind the marked lines when waiting outside classroom doors. Please do not crowd around entrances to the classrooms, or the gates to the school site.

Parents will not be able to enter the school buildings and must remain outside. Any questions to the school office should be by phone or email.

4/ Will there be social distancing in the classroom?

The children in each class are not expected to distance from each other. By operating as class 'bubbles' the idea is that the class is basically an extended family group. We will continue to follow the good hygiene regime, that we have been following in school with the limited opening we have had. This will involve regular hand-washing, use of hand sanitizer, and more frequent cleaning of all areas of the school.

5/What happens if a child or adult in a class bubble tests positive for COVID19?

We follow Government and Public Health England guidance. This guidance is currently that if a child or adult in the class bubble tests positive, then we would have to close the bubble and everyone would have to self-isolate for 14 days. The children will have learning online, which they would be able to access during this time. If paperwork is needed, then this will be provided.

We only close bubbles on positive test results, not on unconfirmed cases. We also don't close bubbles if children have a family member who has a positive test result. That child would go home to self-isolate, but there is no requirement for others in the bubble to self-isolate at that point.

6/ What if my child is ill?

We will not be able to have any child in school who has any symptoms of illness. If a child is sent to school unwell, they will be immediately isolated from other children and parents will be called to collect them as soon as possible.

7/Does my child have to wear school uniform?

We would like to encourage everyone to be wearing school uniform. However, we are also asking you to wash your child's clothing each day and send them in clean clothes the following day. We are realistic with this, and understand it's not always possible. So, if your child needs to wear 'home clothes' on some days, then we will understand.

8/What if I don't feel safe to send my child to school?

The Government has stated that ALL children must be back in school in September. It is really important that our children do not miss any more of their education, so you must make every effort to bring them to school, unless they are unwell or self-isolating because of a confirmed case of COVID.

9/What's happening about lunches?

We will not be able to use the school hall for lunch, because we are not able to mix groups of children. So, lunch will be eaten in the classrooms, or outdoors if the weather is fine. For safety reasons we cannot transport hot food around the school to the classrooms, so our kitchens will only be providing cold lunches (sandwiches, fruit, yoghurts, cake, salad etc)

10/What should my child bring to school?

A packed lunch (all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 may order a school packed lunch, also any older children who receive Free School Meals. Parents may also buy a school lunch on ParentMail in the same way as usual).

A water-bottle (named)

11/Will breakfast club and after-school club be running in September?

Breakfast club and After-school club will be running, but with limited numbers and social distancing between class 'bubbles'. Please book these in the usual way.