

Queensgate Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

September Opening

You will have heard the government announcement that schools will be open for all pupils' full-time education from September 2020. We are delighted that we can now look forward to seeing all our pupils back in September. We are working hard to plan a smooth and safe return for everyone. We are busy planning and completing our new risk assessments; working out exactly what school will look like and feel like when your child returns.

In preparation, there are some key points that you need to be aware of to ensure that your child is safe. Please be aware some details may change; we will keep you updated via email.

- ❖ **You must ensure that if anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, your child does NOT attend school. Any child or staff member who develops symptoms in the school day will be sent home immediately. If anyone in your household, or your child, tests positive for COVID-19 you MUST inform your school.**
- ❖ **Attendance** at school will be compulsory. The government has relaxed the rules on attendance during lockdown. However, this will change in September. The government guidance says: 'Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term.' See overleaf for details of the school day timings.
- ❖ Pupils will be expected to wear **school uniform**.
- ❖ The children will largely remain in the "bubble" of their class, but when they are outside i.e. playtime, lunchtime, they will share the space with children from other year groups. When the children are inside school, year groups will not be routinely gathered together with different year groups.
- ❖ Your child will be expected to follow age appropriate guidance relating to physical contact with other pupils, and keeping their hands clean. Pupils will be expected to wash their hands regularly, and/or use hand sanitiser. Hand washing routines will be built into the school day for all classes.
- ❖ Our **school kitchen** will reopen in September and lunches will be available again. Pupils eligible for free school meals will return to having their lunch at school, and will no longer receive lunch vouchers. Free School Meal vouchers for the last week of this term have now been ordered, as have separate vouchers for the summer holidays. The kitchen will return to serving hot meals. Lunches should be ordered via School Grid, as before lockdown.
- ❖ Pupils and staff will not be wearing face coverings in school. The government advice is clear that this is not necessary in schools. If face coverings are used on public transport to get to school, they must be removed and safely disposed of or stored before entry to the building.
- ❖ **Larks and Owls** (Before and After school club) will re-open (7.45 – 8.45AM, 3.15- 5.45PM). We will not be able to provide any other indoor before or after school clubs in the Autumn term.
- ❖ The government has advised walking/ cycling to school wherever possible to reduce the use of public transport.

We understand that some of you and your children will be anxious about returning in September, after some months out of school. Please be reassured that we are taking extra measures to make our school as safe as can be. We will be providing additional emotional and wellbeing support for all pupils, and will also be providing additional opportunities to support learning where this is required. We are all determined that your children will absolutely not be 'a lost generation' and we're adapting our curriculum to make sure that they get the learning and knowledge that they need to achieve success in the future.

Thank you for your support as we all look forward to a new school year.

N. Hitchcock

Mrs Hitchcock

School day timings

*****Term begins for all pupils on Thursday 3rd September*****

The playground gates (front gate and side gate on the passageway) will open at **8.45AM**. The gates will close soon after **8.55AM**. All children should be in school by 8.55AM. Anyone who does not arrive on time will need to use the main office entrance and sign in electronically.

Reception and Nursery parents will be permitted to walk through the gates to the EYFS entrance doors and encouraged to maintain social distancing on the path.

Year 1- Year 6 parents will not be permitted onto the playground in the morning. Children will walk from the playground gate into the appropriate entrance door into school. There will be a member of staff on the gate and at the entrance doors to greet the children. Parents must not congregate at the 'drop-off' point, they must instead arrive on time and then depart. Siblings may walk together through the same gate.

The school day will end at **3.05PM or 3.15PM** for all classes. This is staggered to reduce the number of people congregating in the playground and therefore reduce the risk of infection to all. Parents must not arrive early or late. They must collect their children on time so that teachers can dismiss children safely. At the end of the day, all parents may enter the playground and wait, whilst maintaining social distancing, for their child to be dismissed. The playground will be open to parents to briefly wait in before their children are released to them. Parents and children should then leave the school site promptly.

	Entrance timeslot	Drop-off location	Exit timeslot	Pick-up location
Reception	8.45 – 8.55AM	Front gate	3.15PM	Front gate
Year 1	8.45 – 8.55 AM	Front gate	3.05PM	Playground door by the canopy
Year 2MC	8.45 – 8.55 AM	Front gate	3.15PM	Playground door by the canopy
Year 2C	8.45 – 8.55 AM	Front gate	3.15PM	Side gate by the Reception outdoor area
Year 3	8.45 – 8.55AM	Passageway gate	3.05PM	KS2 playground door (opposite Year 6 mobiles)
Year 4	8.45 – 8.55AM	Passageway gate	3.15PM	KS2 playground door (opposite Year 6 mobiles)
Year 5	8.45 – 8.55AM	Passageway gate	3.15PM	KS2 playground door (opposite Year 6 mobiles)
Year 6	8.45 – 8.55AM	Passageway gate	3.15PM	KS2 playground door (opposite Year 6 mobiles)

There will be a phased return for our new Nursery, Reception children and details have been shared with these parents