



Parent & Carer Guidance

Updated February 2021 in relation to The Department for Education's 'Schools coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance'

We are very much looking forward to welcoming your child back to school during the week of the 8th March 2021. Please read through the guidance below in readiness for then.

There is an expectation that all pupils will return to school to in March. However, if you have a child or a family member with significant health concerns, please contact the school to discuss your worries with the Head Teacher or Deputy Head.

From March there is an expectation that your child will wear full school uniform.

We will not be using the water fountains, so please provide water in a named bottle. Children will be able to refill their bottles during the school day.

We ask that your child does not bring any additional belongings or items from home as we will provide them with a set of pens, pencils, etc., these items will be stored in their own labelled tray and only used by them.

Drop offs and pick ups

Where possible we would encourage you to drive your child to school. Please ask the school or your transport provider if you think you are eligible for a transport allowance.

We would also discourage the use of public transport especially during peaks times.

If bringing your child into school, we are asking that only one parent drops off and picks up their child to minimise potential spread of infection

If your child wears a mask to school, they will be reminded how to remove it safely (by not touching the front of the mask when removing it). Secondary students will need to wear a mask in all communal areas of the school.

Children will be asked to dispose of temporary face masks in the bin provided. Children with material masks will be provided with a clear plastic bag to keep it in until they start their journey home. If your child uses disposables masks, please ensure they have another for their journey home.

There will be a hand sanitizer station by the entrance of the playground. All children will be encouraged to use this as they arrive.

Visiting the school

If you have been asked to attend school for a pre-arranged meeting, then please use the hand sanitiser stations located in the school reception. **If you are experiencing any coronavirus related symptoms including a new continuous cough or a high temperature, or have a loss of, or change in your normal sense of taste then you must not enter the school building.**



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The School Day

Please be assured that the learning opportunities we offer will not be affected and we will continue to offer a vibrant, hands on curriculum with a continued focus on supporting your child's well-being during these challenging times.

When in school your child will be in a key stage 'Family Bubble'. This will mean that they will remain with the same group of adults and pupils throughout the school day. Your child will receive a letter this week, from their teacher, explaining any changes.

To minimise Family Bubble cross overs, we will be colour zoning break-time areas, pick up and drop off points.

Children will eat their lunch in their learning space or outside when the weather permits.

Throughout the day your child will be encouraged and supported with washing their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and then drying thoroughly frequently. Hand washing will take place before and after eating, before and after activities and after sneezing and/or coughing. Children will be reminded to use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, and kill it').

In each learning space where possible, we have removed all unnecessary items, including soft toys and toys that are hard to clean.

The cleaning in the school has been increased and staff will wipe down surfaces throughout the day. Learning spaces will be kept naturally ventilated at all times by opening as many windows as is practical and safe.

Doors within the school will be kept open where safe to do so, bearing in mind fire regulations and safeguarding considerations.

If your child requires intimate care at school staff will wear a mask, apron and gloves to protect your child and staff from risk of infection.

Teachers will write an individual risk assessment for children who require intimate care or will find social distancing highly challenging. The risk assessment will be shared, agreed and signed off by you and the Head Teacher.

Arrival home

To minimise the potential spread of infection we advise that when your child arrives home they have a shower/bath and their clothes are washed.



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Potential COVID19 – We need to think what if it is, rather than what if it isn't.

We will respond on a **'what if it is rather than what if it isn't'** basis, for many it may be hay fever or a cold, however this needs to be investigated and **NO CHANCES MUST BE TAKEN.**

A Pupil with COVID-19 symptoms

If your child develops any coronavirus related symptoms whilst at school, including a new continuous cough or a high temperature, or have a loss of, or change in their normal sense of taste, they **must** go home. It is then your duty as a parent to get tested them straight away before they can return to school and to inform the school of the test results.

Please **do not** send you child into school if they have any coronavirus related symptoms including a new continuous cough or a high temperature, or have a loss of, or change in your normal sense of taste.

All members of the Gosden community must engage with NHS test and trace.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-an-antigen-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Please tell us straight away if your child or anyone in your family tests positive for COVID-19.

Secondary students will receive separate guidelines regarding the Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing in place.

Please ensure you have provided the school with up to date contact details.

If there is a confirmed case of Coronavirus in school, the Senior Leadership Team will follow guidance advised by The Department for Education and Public Health.

Thank you for your ongoing support.