

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## REOPENING TO ALL CHILDREN ON THURSDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, schools across the county have been preparing to reopen to all children in September, as directed by the Government. I am sure that I don't need to tell any of you that I unequivocally share the sentiment that it is crucial that we get children of all ages back into school to resume their education and that it is vital that we do this as safely as possible. The attached plan details the measures we currently have in place to minimise the risks associated with Covid-19, as identified by the current official Government guidance. However, as you will have seen and indeed experienced through this global pandemic, the scientific and political thinking is constantly evolving and changing and so what we do may need to adapt and change as we move forward.

We know that many parents will be anxious about sending their children back to school next week (we also know that many will be thinking that it is about time they went back!) but please try not to let this affect the children. We are not naive enough to think that there won't be a few worried children, but we also know what we saw with children of all ages before the Summer holiday. Have faith in us when we say that most (again, not all) children across the country will 'get on with it' and will quickly adapt. We had children from Reception through to Y6 in school before the Summer holiday and aside from a tear or two from one or two children when they initially approached the gates, the children were all able to cope with any rules and routines they were faced with. Yes, they are capable of walking from the gate to the classroom door without you! To be honest, from my observations locally and nationally, children (at least of primary age) have dealt with the whole pandemic/lockdown situation far better than most adults (and I include myself in saying that)!

We make no apology for attaching the lengthy document detailing what this provision will look like (we apologise in advance for any typos amidst the 5500 words). In drawing up the document we have highlighted the risks and shown the measures we are putting in place to minimise the risks. It should answer any questions you may have. However, we are also aware, that most parents want a quick summary of the key points that affect day-to-day routines, so we have attached this too!

We believe that our school is as safe, indeed safer, for children and staff than almost all other settings you and your children will encounter in the current pandemic. It is important to recognise that, just as when you enter a shop, visit a restaurant, meet as two households or even simply open your post, we cannot eliminate all risk entirely. Our detailed planning and the measures we have put in place go above and beyond those required by the Government. I am sure that working together we can ensure that our children can resume their education and return to a much-needed version of normality.

As always, we would all like to thank you for your continued patience and support in these unprecedented circumstances.

Stay safe!



Mr. D. Hurdman  
Headteacher



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## KEY POINTS FOR PARENTS FROM THE REOPENING ACTION PLAN:

- **CHILDREN, STAFF AND PARENTS MUST NOT COME TO SCHOOL UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES IF THEY ARE DISPLAYING THE SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS CURRENTLY DESCRIBED BY THE NHS AT**  
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- **IF A SYMPTOMATIC COMES INTO SCHOOL, THEY WILL BE SENT HOME IMMEDIATELY OR ISOLATED UNTIL THEY CAN BE PICKED UP. SCHOOL'S DECISION REGARDING THIS IS FINAL.**
- **ALTHOUGH CURRENT GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE SAYS NO FACE COVERINGS NEED TO BE WORN AT PRIMARY SCHOOL, AT OUR SCHOOL FACEMASKS/SHIELDS MAY BE WORN BY CHILDREN, STAFF, PARENTS AND VISITORS WITHOUT PREJUDICE.**

## ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE TIMES AND ARRANGEMENTS

- As advised by the Government, we are operating staggered start and finish times until further notice as follows:

### Arrival times:

- Y6 & Y5 8:30am-8:40am
- Y4, Y3 & Y1 8:40am-8:50am
- Y2 & Rec 8:50am-9am

### Departure times:

- Y6 & Y5 3pm-3:10pm
- Y4, Y3 & Y1 3:10pm-3:20pm
- Y2 & Rec 3:20pm-3:30pm

All siblings are to arrive and leave together in the earliest allocated slot. To ensure the continued safety and health of our children and staff, we do need everyone to adhere to these times. We have endeavoured to set them as near to our 'normal' times as possible. If you arrive early, please wait away from the gates and fencing (e.g. on the grass mound).

## RECEPTION CHILDREN:

Due to not being able to run induction afternoons this summer, we are starting with two half-days for Reception children, who will be in 2 groups for the first two days (called group A and B to keep it simple for us!). They will not be with us for lunch on those two days.

- Group A: Children with first names starting with A-H. Group A are in Thursday morning (8:50-9:00am to 12:00-12:10pm) and Friday afternoon (1:00-1:10pm to 3:20-3:30pm)
  - Group B: Children with first names starting with I-Z. Group B are in Thursday afternoon (1:00-1:10pm to 3:20-3:30pm) and Friday morning (8:50-9:00am to 12:00-12:10pm)
- All access for children (and parents at the end of the day) will be through the playground gate. There will be no access through the 'top' gate, which will remain locked.
  - No parents are permitted on site whatsoever through the gates at morning drop off. The exception to this is parents of our new Reception children



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Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September inclusive, who may accompany their children to the outside door of the Reception classroom.

- Children will come in through the playground gate and go straight to their classroom outside door. Y1 and Reception go up the path alongside the Mobile to the doors under the long canopy. Maintaining a distance between one another, children go straight into the classroom (sanitising on the way in) and are then under the supervision of the classteacher, who will direct organisation for the day ahead (e.g. cloakroom procedures).
- The car park will be coned off prior to arrival/departure times to allow a larger safe area around the school gates and to prevent unauthorised access during collection.
- Cones will be moved only to allow access for those parents who have been issued permits by the office. No other parent vehicles must attempt to enter the car park or access road. In the morning, we may ask parents with permits to drop off their child by the cones on the access road to school. A member of staff (e.g. the site manager) will ensure children being dropped off in this manner are able to safely walk to the school gates.
- Parents with permits waiting in the car park at the end of the day may need to remain in the car park until all children have left at 3:30pm to ensure children and parents can leave the site safely whilst maintaining social distance.
- Parents can come onto the playground at the end of the day and must wait on a socially distanced marked place on the playground (as directed by the Site Manager, Headteacher or designated member of staff). Parents must not approach staff, the building or other parents. Y1 and Reception parents will be directed to the path alongside the Mobile. Parents should leave the site immediately when they have collected their children.
- All children must be picked up by a parent/carer during the designated slot, apart from Y6 who may walk home themselves with written permission from a parent. Under no circumstances will children from any other year group will be allowed to walk home themselves, even with a Y6 sibling.
- Only one adult will be permitted to collect children from inside school premises (although parents can bring pre-school siblings who must stay with their adult at all times). All parents are expected to adhere to current Government rules regarding social distancing. Parents must make school aware if someone other than a parent is collecting their child. To minimise risk of cross-infection, this should preferably be done by emailing our dedicated attendance email address ([attendance@burgschool.org.uk](mailto:attendance@burgschool.org.uk)) or, if not possible, by phone.

## UNIFORM & LUNCH

- All children should wear normal full uniform (including shoes) and bring outdoor and indoor PE kit every day. Children must also bring a waterproof



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coat – we are approaching Autumn and Winter and clearly we don't want to be sharing 'spare' coats.

- Children may bring their own sanitiser. We have plenty of sanitising stations around school and handwashing facilities in toilets and classrooms. We do have tissues, but children should ideally bring their own to minimise risk of cross infection. We will be reinforcing the 'catch-it, bin-it, kill-it' mantra.
- We are planning for Reception, Y1 and Y2 children to be able to have their Government-funding hot meal. Menus should appear next week if this is confirmed (Reception are not in for lunch on Thursday and Friday). Unfortunately, all other children will need a pack-up providing from home until further notice. We will provide pack-ups for those children in Y3-Y6 entitled to Free School Meals, should one be needed. More details regarding this will follow prior to reopening next week.
- Reception, Y1 and Y2 will eat in the Hall, which has sufficient space to keep year groups separate. Y3-Y6 will eat in the classrooms, again, to keep groups of children as separate as possible.

#### IN THE CLASSROOM AND AROUND SCHOOL

- We will be working with a positive attitude, and will not be referring to 'catching-up' or 'being behind'. We will review what they already know and move forward with learning from their starting points.
- Y1-Y6 classrooms are set up with desks facing the front. For most of our Key Stage 2 children, this is no different to pre-Covid arrangements. Children are not facing one another. The teacher has a designated area of the front of the classroom, which children must not enter.
- Reception class will not be sat in rows at desks. However, the classroom and outside space will be managed to ensure that children have space to learn and they will be taught to respect personal space.
- Children will be taught in their class groups. They will not mix with children from other classes. The Government have been clear that adults in all schools are allowed to work across different groups. We will keep movement of adults (teachers and teaching assistants) to an absolute minimum at our school. As is permitted by the Government, some adults may work across different classes (e.g. PE coaches), as noted in the detailed action plan.
- Adults working with individuals will be adhering to '1m plus...' protocols where necessary. However, even under these protocols, close contact between children and adults will be kept to an absolute minimum.
- Any children with complex needs or who need close contact care will have the same support as normal as distancing isn't possible here. Staff will be rigorous about hand washing, physical hygiene and respiratory hygiene. Additionally, staff working close to children are expected to adhere to '1m+'



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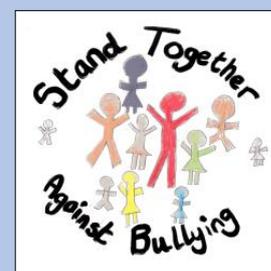
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principles and should strongly consider the use of face shields and face masks where appropriate. This is relevant to adults working within the classroom and also those working with intervention groups. Where possible (e.g. in the smaller teaching rooms) we will also provide transparent screens to separate staff from children.

- Resources used by children at school and at home such as reading books and library books will be returned to clearly marked containers to allow them to be left for 72 hours before being returned into circulation. Individual and very frequently used equipment, like pens and pencils, will not be shared.
- Although many children have not been in school since March, we expect the excellent behaviour normally demonstrated by our children to be demonstrated from day 1. If we let the children off, we let them down. Children of any age who deliberately and consistently show disregard for the safety of others (including joking about Covid-19 or feigning Covid-19 symptoms) will be considered as a serious breach of the behaviour standards expected at school and will be dealt with seriously in line with current policies and legislation.
- Unfortunately, there will be no whole-school Collective Worship (commonly known as 'assembly' in the hall. As you already know as you send your child to a church school, they take part in an act of Collective Worship (i.e. assembly) every day which is broadly Christian in character. During our partial reopening, we were able to hold assembly in a variety of ways, including live streaming to the whole school, pre-recorded audio and video assemblies in class and class reflection time. These will continue in September.
- Break times and dinner sittings continue to be split to ensure there is sufficient space on the playground.



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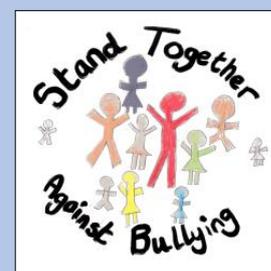
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## CORONAVIRUS IN CHILDREN

(NHS guidance as of 28.08.2020)

Children can get coronavirus (COVID-19), but they seem to get it less often than adults and it's usually less serious.

### Symptoms of coronavirus in children

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

### What to do if your child has symptoms

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get the result.

### What is a support bubble?

A support bubble is where someone who lives alone (or just with their children) can meet people from 1 other household.

### Important

Get advice from NHS 111 if you're worried about your child or not sure what to do.

- For children aged 5 or over – use the [NHS 111 online coronavirus service](#).
- For children under 5 – call 111.

### What to do if your child seems very unwell

Children and babies will still get illnesses that can make them very unwell quickly. It's important to get medical help if you need it.

### Urgent advice:

#### Call 111 or your GP surgery if your child:

- is under 3 months old and has a temperature of 38C or higher, or you think they have a fever
- is 3 to 6 months old and has a temperature of 39C or higher, or you think they have a fever
- has other signs of illness, such as a rash, as well as a high temperature (fever)
- has a high temperature that's lasted for 5 days or more
- does not want to eat, or is not their usual self and you're worried
- has a high temperature that does not come down with paracetamol
- is dehydrated – for example, nappies are not very wet, sunken eyes, and no tears when they're crying



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**Immediate action required:**

**Call 999 if your child:**

- has a stiff neck
- has a rash that does not fade when you press a glass against it ([use the "glass test" from Meningitis Now](#))
- is bothered by light
- has a seizure or fit for the first time (they cannot stop shaking)
- has unusually cold hands and feet
- has pale, blotchy, blue or grey skin
- has a weak, high-pitched cry that's not like their usual cry
- is drowsy and hard to wake
- is extremely agitated (does not stop crying) or is confused
- finds it hard to breathe and sucks their stomach in under their ribs
- has a soft spot on their head that curves outwards
- is not responding like they usually do, or not interested in feeding or usual activities



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