

Entry/Exit Arrangements

Why have gates been allocated?

We are trying to reduce contact between class groups to reduce the likelihood of transmitting Covid-19 and therefore reduce the chances of any class bubbles needing to close.

I have more than one child attending school in different year groups. How do I get both of my children to class when they have to go through different gates?

We realise that travelling from one gate to the next is not ideal, however we are trying our best to protect the class bubbles. By reducing the number of people on site at any one time, children and adults are less likely to contract symptoms of Covid-19 and therefore less likely for class bubbles to be closed.

If you have a child in a Key Stage 2 class, you may choose to drop your child off at the gate and then they can walk to the classroom without you. This will enable parents/carers to walk round the other gate to drop younger siblings off at their classroom door.

If both of your children start at the same but are in different year groups, you may choose the most appropriate gate for you.

Can I arrange for other people to collect my child?

Yes. We will send out the adult collection form again so that you can share photographs and names of key people that you as parent/carer give permission to collect your child. As always we ask that you inform school if any additional adult is going to collect your child at the last minute.

We are happy for you to arrange collection with other parents/carers in order for you to manage the different drop off/ collection times, as long as social distancing is maintained.

Is there a limit of the number of adults on site per family?

Yes. Please can only one adult per family bring the children onto site or collect each day to reduce the number of people on site at any one time.

Can I wait on the playground for the class door to open?

Please wait outside the classroom doors within the five minute window at a distance from people who do not live in your household. Outside of this time, we require that you are not on school site.

Break and Lunchtime

Do I need to provide my child with lunch on a Friday? Do we need a disposable lunch?

Yes the children will stay at school for lunch on a Friday. If you would like them to have a packed lunch, please send this in. School meals will be provided as before.

There is no requirement for lunch to be in a disposable bag from September. However, please can you avoid bringing material lunchboxes and instead send your child with a washable lunchbox.

How will lunchtime work?

Children eating a packed lunch or High Five will eat in their classroom. Children having a hot meal will eat in the hall. This is because class bubbles need to be distanced and we will only be able to distance small numbers of pupils in our hall at any one time.

What can the children do at break and lunchtime play?

As children are not expected to socially distance with one another, they will be able to play the usual games including ball games, hula hooping, skipping, tag etc. Any equipment that the children use will be confined to their class bubble and cleaned regularly.

General Queries

Does my child need to wear full school uniform from September?

Yes

What will my child need to bring to/from school?

It is recommended that pupils limit the amount of equipment they bring into school. Essential items include water bottle, lunchbox (if needed), snack, coats, hats, and reading books. Children are not allowed to bring in anything else from home.

Children are asked not to bring their own pencil case and resources. School can provide the stationery that is needed and children will keep their own set, rather than share equipment.

Can we use the bike shed?

Yes, the bike shed will be back in use. Please can you ensure that only one person enters the bike shed at any one time.

Can my child take a reading book to and from school?

Yes. We have a planned system where children will be able to choose a library book from a selection allocated to their class bubble. We will also provide those who are learning to read with a phonics book suited to their reading ability.

We recommend that you wipe books over when you get them home. When books are returned to school, we will quarantine them for 72 hours and place them in a room which will then be chemically fogged to remove any contamination.

Information sharing

How can I speak to the teacher if I need to share some information about my child?

Teachers cannot be available on the door anymore so if you have any information that you wish to share, please email the school office who will forward this onto the teacher:

admin@norwoodschool.co.uk or office@norwoodschool.co.uk

If you wish to share any urgent information, please telephone the school office on 01733 574717.

If you wish to have a longer conversation with the class teacher, please make contact with the school office who will pass on your request. The class teacher will then make contact with you to arrange a telephone or virtual meeting.

How do I inform the office if my child will be absent?

In the build up to lockdown, we created a new email address for parents/carers to use in the event of absence- absence@norwoodschool.co.uk

Alternatively, you can call the school office and leave a message on 01733 574717.

Please can you make clear the reason for your child's absence and their symptoms so that we can make decisions to ensure the school remains free of Covid-19.

Can I go to the school office to share information/ ask questions/ deliver forgotten items?

Please do not go to the school office unless you have made an appointment. You can make an appointment by telephoning 01733 574717 or emailing office@norwoodschool.co.uk or admin@norwoodschool.co.uk

Emotional well-being queries

What if my child is feeling anxious about coming into school?

We recommend that you start talking to your child about school over the coming few weeks. We are preparing school for their return and plan to have some photographs of their classrooms and key spaces on the website for children to look at over the Summer holidays.

It is worth walking past school on your days out and just reminding your child about the adults that they know in their class bubble and talk about the fun times that they had, reminding them of their friendships.

Try to start getting back into a routine nearer the start of term and maybe get in contact with school friends so that your child can feel safe and secure in the knowledge that their friends are the same.

If your child is distressed about coming into school on their first few days, we ask that you stay calm and wait until all other children are in school. We will arrange for one of the class adults to come out to greet your child and aim to distract them with a job or a friend to help them through the door.

If your child continues to be distressed and anxious at home, please call the school office to arrange a meeting with an adult from the class bubble so that we can make arrangements to support your child's emotional well-being in their return to school.

Learning queries

What will my child (ren) be learning?

We recognise that children will have had different learning experiences during lockdown. Our priority is that the children are safe, happy and settled at school. School has been closed for a long time for most pupils and many will need support to feel safe and secure at school.

We will use tools to identify gaps in children's learning and work hard, with parent/carer support, to re-establish good progress in the essentials (phonics and reading, vocabulary, writing and mathematics)

Will children be able to sit together during class time?

The tables in Year 2-6 will be set up in forward facing rows. Children in Year Reception and Year 1 will have learning zones similar to the usual way in which Reception is set up.

My child has missed almost half of their academic year. How will they catch up?

All children have had different experiences of learning during lockdown. We know that children will arrive in September with different gaps in their learning. One of our priorities is to identify these gaps and provide learning to fill them. We are going to need the support of parents/carers to reinforce this learning and our priority will be reading, writing and maths.

We recognise that children who are in Year 1 in September 2020 will have missed essential developmental stages in learning. These stages need to be achieved as they are the building blocks for future learning. Our Reception Teacher, Mrs Hainsworth, who knows these children well will be supporting the Year 1 team to ensure that their needs are catered for in a Reception style of learning. Therefore, learning zones will be created in a similar way to Reception class and the teams will have regular discussions about when the children are ready to make the transition to the Year 1 curriculum.