



Schools Reopening September 2020 - Frequently Asked Questions

These were shared at parents' forum (14.7.20) and then updated accordingly

Update 16.7.20

As we start to look ahead to September, plans are well underway to launch a fresh start to 2020. As we review processes and procedures, we have thought about guidance that may be useful at this time.

Please note that all plans are subject to change in the interests of pupil and staff safety.

Are you definitely re-opening your schools on Thursday 3rd September?

No - we are opening the school to **staff only on Tuesday 1st September**. We will have 3 staff training days (PD) due to the amount of extra preparation and training needed on the wealth of new policies and procedures (due to Covid-19) that our staff will need. **The children will be back in school on Friday 4th September.**

Reception children will begin their transition into school on Thursday 3rd September (a timetable has been shared with our new parents in preparation for this).

Friday 4th September will be an ideal opportunity for us to support the children with a swift and supportive return to school, understanding new routines ready for a full week ahead from Monday 7th September.

How many children will my child come into contact with?

Children will be in class groups of 30 (up to 32 in KS2). The children are allowed to mix with other children in their year groups at playtimes, lunchtimes and for specific lessons/interventions. The children will not be meeting in Key Stages, or as a whole school; there will not be any whole school assemblies until further guidance from the Government is issued. Mrs Morrison will send pre-recorded or live messages/assemblies to the children's classrooms.

Who will be looking after my child?

Your child will be taught by their class teacher and will be supported by teaching assistants as appropriate. Staff will be allocated year group bubbles that they will work in, however, this could be more than one. There are some members of staff that will inevitably have to work across the school e.g. Mrs Morrison, Mrs Uttley and Mrs Arfi and those members of staff that cover classes whilst class teachers have their release time. These members of staff will take extra precautions and try to remain 2 metres away from other adults whilst in school where possible.

Where will my child be based?

Your child will be based in their classroom and will be able to use the group areas within their year groups. In year groups where we have more space and spare classrooms, these will be used to maximise learning opportunities.

What will be the arrangements for dropping off and picking up my child?

From September we will be changing the times of our school day slightly. This will allow for a swift drop off and collection of children on a larger site (this is a permanent change). We have also been impressed with how well our children have coped with the one-way routes into school.

Please see table below;

	Gates Open for 10 mins only	Start time (in class by)	Home time
Nursery	8:30am	8:40am	3:20pm
Reception	8:30am	8:40am	3:20pm
Year 1	8:45am	8:55am	3:35pm
Year 2	8:45am	8:55am	3:35pm
Year 3	8:45am	8:55am	3:35pm
Year 4	8:45am	8:55am	3:30pm
Year 5	8:30am	8:40am	3:20pm
Year 6	8:30am	8:40am	3:20pm

Parents will need to adhere to these drop off and collection times to avoid overcrowding of the school site, and unnecessary contact with other parents and families. If you have children in different year groups, this may mean 2 trips around the school site so make sure that you are wearing your step counters!

What if I am a critical worker and my child is in one of the year groups which is returning to school?

All children within all year groups are returning to school in September 2020

Does my child have to wear uniform?

Yes, we feel that in September it is important for school to feel as normal as possible.

Let's be proud to be Abbots Green again.

On the days that your child has PE, they will need to come dressed in their PE kits for the whole day. You will be informed of your child's PE days on September 4th.

For further guidance on school uniform and PE kits, please refer to the school website.

What about breaks and lunchtimes?

These will be staggered so that different year groups will be outside at different times, again staying in their separate outdoor spaces or classrooms allocated to your child's year group.

Children will eat their lunch in their classrooms. Your child can either bring their own packed lunch or they can have one provided by the school's normal catering company (Vertas): children. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free 'Universal Infant Free School Meal' as normal, and children in Years 2 to 6 who are eligible for Free School Meals are also entitled to a free packed lunch. All other pupils can purchase a packed lunch.

A revised hot meal menu will be shared on our website as soon as this is available.

Scientific guidance states that the risk of transmission is much lower outdoors. However, we will still be reminding children about keeping apart and each year group will have its own times for breaks and lunchtimes.

	Play time (am)	Lunch time Delivery of meals from the hall (one hour including playtime)	
		Delivery time	Break time
	N/A	11:45am	N/A
R	10:15am	11:45-12:45 (Reception Area)	
1	10:30 Playground R	12:00pm	12:30 Playground (right)
2	10:30am Playground L	12:00pm	12:30 Playground (left)
3	10:45am Playground	12:30 pm	1:00 Playground (left)
4	10:45 am Ball court	12:30 pm	1:00 Playground (right)
5	10:15am Playground	12:15 pm	12:45 Ball court
6	10:15am Ball court	12:15 pm	12:45 Common room/courtyard

Will there be tuck shop on a Friday?

No. Children can bring in their own healthy snack each day. Fruit or vegetables only please.

What are you doing to keep schools as clean as possible?

In addition to our normal rigorous cleaning, we will have cleaners on site throughout the day to clean toilet areas and to help with cleaning classrooms.

How are you keeping my child safe when they are in class?

Following Government guidelines, children will all be seated facing the same direction; the school will provide the children with their own equipment (this will remain in school) to use, and shared resources will be kept to a minimum. Children will be asked to wash their hands regularly.

What will my child be learning in school when they return?

We look forward to delivering the Abbots Green curriculum from September. This will create a balance of all subjects with additional opportunities to learn outside.

We recognise the importance of supporting our children's emotional needs as we start a new year; we will need to balance this carefully with ensuring we gain an understanding of where child's academic needs are placed.

We will also be educating and supporting the children specifically around the topic of Coronavirus e.g if a child coughs, this does not mean that they have the virus.

PE lessons will be taught outside – we will be implementing the summer curriculum (athletics, team sports) in the autumn term.

Your child will be reading to adults (appropriate to each year group) but will be unable to bring reading books home – this will be reviewed in September in line with Government guidance.

Statutory tests (e.g Y6 SATS/Y4 times tables test) will go ahead as directed by the Government

What can my child need to bring in?

- A named water bottle
- A packed lunch (if applicable)
- A named coat (weather dependent)

What will happen if my child gets a cough or cold?

We will continue to follow NHS guidance:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Check if you or your child has coronavirus symptoms

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), you must stay at home (self-isolate) and get a test.

Main symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

What to do if you have symptoms

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. **Stay at home (self-isolate)** – do not leave your home or have visitors. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also self-isolate.
2. **Get a test** – get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, should also get a test if they have symptoms.

Get a test to check if you have coronavirus

What if someone in the school gets Covid-19?

The current guidance for September, is that if there is a confirmed case of Covid-19, the children and adults within that year group bubble will have to remain at home for 14 days. If schools have 2 or more confirmed cases of Covid-19 within 14 days, they may have an outbreak, and will need to take advice from the Local Authority.

Do I have to send my child to school?

Yes, the expectation is that all children attend school. It is a parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school, and they are of compulsory school age.

At Abbots Green, we will record attendance and follow up absence, we will also issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.

Will you still provide distance learning to those children that cannot attend school?

It will be our intention to share distanced learning only when a bubble is closed.

Home learning will be set weekly for all year groups.

Will my child be able to access Sunsetters/Sunrisers?

Yes, as a school we are very proud of the wrap around care that we offer. In September, this will be slightly different with children being placed in year group/ key stage groups to minimise contact. Further details of this arrangements will follow during the first week of term. All children requiring a place at Sunsetters/Sunrisers will be given a place where possible.

How are schools going to adhere to social distancing rules and measures?

Within year group bubbles, social distancing will not be possible. Children will be taught about the importance of socially distancing. However, we recognise with classes of up to 32, this will not always be possible. We will not be having any whole school assemblies.

How will first aid be administered?

Staff will administer first aid as they normally do, but will be wearing PPE – a mask, a visor, an apron and gloves.

How will the school inform parents of any changes/updates due to Covid-19?

We will put this document on the school website and will update it regularly.

We will also hold another parents' forum within the first 2 weeks of September. We will address more questions then, including whether or not we will be holding a parents' evening during the autumn term.

We will also use the newsletter to signpost to updates on the website e.g Bingo Board reading book suggestions under reading in the parents' section