



HJS – PLANS FOR PANDEMIC STEP 4

Information for parents

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

July 2021

WE EXPECT SCHOOL TO BE OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN FROM 6TH SEPTEMBER

Unless your child is unwell, or your family has been advised to isolate, we expect everyone back in school on **Monday 6th September 2021**.

We have reviewed the government's guidance for "Step 4" – the relaxation of pandemic restrictions which comes into force in England on 19th July, and in line with that guidance, we are making some changes to the current arrangements. We will still have strict controls in place to minimise the risk of transmission of the virus, but we are advised that it is no longer necessary to keep children in separate bubbles. This will make life a lot easier for everyone, and will enable us to restart some of the things we have been unable to do for the last 18 months.

Some children may be asked to isolate, for example if they develop symptoms, or if they are identified as close contacts of a positive case, however we do not expect to send home whole classes or year groups. We will continue to use Microsoft Teams, as we have done this year, to make sure that children at home can have access to all of our lesson plans and resources.

Breakfast Club, Shine and Schools Out after school clubs will be available. Details of how to book these are all on our [Before And After School](#) page on the website.

NO BUBBLES

We are no longer required to keep children in separate bubbles. This means that we no longer have to stagger our lunch or break times, and can remove the one-way systems that we have been using in school. Children will also be able to use any of our toilet facilities. We have chosen to stick with the arrangement of all toilets being designated as "unisex". We have found this to be helpful, and this is in line with current practice in many schools and public places.

SAFETY MEASURES

In line with the guidance, we will maintain the following safety measures:

- **Ensuring good hygiene.** Children will be asked to wash their hands on arrival in the morning, before eating, whenever they return from outdoor lessons, and before and after using any shared equipment. We will continue to teach the "catch it - bin it - kill it" approach to dealing with coughs, sneezes and sniffles.
- **Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes.** We will continue with our additional clean of high-touch surfaces in the middle of the day, as well as our routine daily

clean. We will regularly clean shared equipment and shared furniture with viricidal spray.

- **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.** We will keep windows open, ensuring there is a flow of fresh air. We will follow DfE advice regarding the need to balance the need for ventilation with the need for comfortable working temperatures. Our new heating system should help significantly with this!
- **Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19.** We receive daily updates from DfE and regular briefings from Bristol's Education and Public Health teams. We will assist with contact tracing if required to do so. We will ask parents to collect children from school if they begin to display potential symptoms of the virus, and we expect parents not to send their children to school if they are unwell.

TIMETABLE

We no longer need to stagger start and finish times. All classes will begin registration at **8:50am** and all classes will come out at **3:25pm**.

- Breakfast club is available at the infant school from 8:00
- Gates open 8:45
- Registration starts 8:50
- Morning Break is 10:30-10:50.
- Lunch is 12:00-1:05
- School day ends at 3:25
- Clubs start at 3:25
- Shine activity clubs end at 4:45
- Shine and Schools Out after-school care ends at 5:50

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

We would like everyone to access the site via the pedestrian gate on Park Grove, or for those with siblings in the infant school via the gate on Henleaze Park. Please avoid using the vehicle gates into the infant or junior car parks if possible.

Parents and carers will be asked to remain outside the green fence. We will open the green gates at 8:45 in the morning and 3:25 in the afternoon.

We do not require parents to wear face coverings, but many will choose to do so, and we recognise that this is widely seen to be a sensible and considerate safety precaution.

To avoid congestion at the gates, Year 6 and Year 4 will continue to enter through the gate by the cycle park. Year 5 and Year 3 will continue to enter through the gate by the willow tree.

CLASSROOMS

We are no longer required to arrange children side by side facing the front. We will be rearranging tables so that children can sit in appropriate groupings. They will also be able to sit in different places for different lessons if the teacher finds that necessary.

Children will not need to keep all of their books on or under their table all day, and we will revert to using the cloakrooms for their coats and bags. However, **we would still like to encourage children not to bring large bags to school**. They need only bring a snack, a water bottle, a reading book, their reading record and a packed lunch (if required).

In order to minimise sharing of equipment, **we will provide every child with their own stationery and a pencil case to put it in**. This will enable us to keep the tables clear of clutter, which makes it easier to clean them. **We will be inviting all parents to make a £5 contribution to cover the cost of stationery supplies for the year in September**.

For a small number of Year 6 children who have unavoidable reasons to bring in a phone, they will have to keep it in their tray, turned off, and we will not accept any responsibility for it. **Parents are asked to contact us if they feel their child has a need to bring a phone to school**. We strongly discourage it.

UNIFORM

We will be strictly enforcing our school uniform expectations in the new school year. [Details can be found on our website](#). Please note, school uniform does not include “skins”, or “under armour”. If children are cold, they should wear sweatshirts or hoodies and long trousers, or tights with skirts. Plain coloured alternatives to the HJS branded uniform items are acceptable, as long as they don't have visible logos.

Children will be asked to wear their PE kit to school on PE days to avoid the need for another bag and for changing. PE kit consists of black shorts and a plain or HJS branded t-shirt in their team colour. They may wear a sweatshirt or jogging bottoms on top if it is cold, and on PE days, “skins” would be an acceptable alternative to keep warm.

LUNCHES

Children may order school lunches as usual, or may bring their own packed lunch.

All meals will be eaten in the Hall or Dining Hall. We will not have separate sittings for each year group as we have done this year.

Packed lunches will be eaten outside if the weather is fine.

MANAGING ILLNESS

It is absolutely essential that parents, staff and children all work together to minimise the risk of transmission of the Covid 19 virus.

If anyone in the household has any symptoms, however minor, that might indicate Covid 19, children must not come into school.

If your child or anyone living in your household:

- develops a cough
- develops a high temperature
- or has a loss of sense of smell or taste

you must keep them at home and [arrange a Covid 19 test](#).

If the test is positive, families will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, who will help you identify close contacts. We have published the guidance from DfE and NHS on [Step 4 Test and Trace guidance](#) on our Covid section of the website.

Out of school hours, our [online form](#) on the website can be used **if you need to inform us that a child has tested positive and they were in school during the previous 48 hours**. This will help us to identify and alert close contacts from school.

If symptoms develop while a child is in school, they will be taken from the classroom to our medical room where they will be looked after by one of our First Aiders, using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). Parents will be called and asked to collect the child as soon as possible, and will be asked to arrange a Covid 19 test.

MEDICAL INFORMATION AND MEDICATION

Parents are asked to ensure that the office is provided with relevant medical information about their children, and that any medications required in school are up to date.

Parents must inform the school if their child is in a clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable category as defined by the latest government guidelines.