

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

## School Full Opening Information for Parents of Year R - Year 6 (March 2021)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased, relieved and excited to be welcoming all our primary children back to school, on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March!

At long last, we will be reunited in school after eight weeks of both our remote learning and onsite provision. Thank you to everyone who has played their own important part throughout this period of lockdown. I would especially like to thank all the children and their families who have been doing their very best to engage in our remote learning provision at home. You too, have played a vital role in preventing the spread of the virus and keeping our onsite numbers manageable and safe for all concerned. We are extremely proud of the children's commitment to their learning at home; however, I am sure that parents and children alike, cheered when the announcement to open was made. I hope everyone can feel a huge sense of achievement in getting to grips with MS Teams and its various functions and frustrations, together, at home.

Our priority next week, will be to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to settle back into school, and to reconnect with their class community and friends, class teachers and support staff. There will be time to reflect on the children's experiences and achievements over lockdown and to support any feelings of worry or concern they may have in these early days of school reopening.

Next week is also British Science Week 2021. The theme for this year is 'Innovating for the Future' and teachers have planned an exciting first week together of practical scientific investigation for all year groups. We are looking forward to becoming scientists for the week, to kick start our learning.

Following the government's announcement on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, I would like to update parents on arrangements for the reopening of CCS primary phase to all children, on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

### Safety Measures

We have been successfully operating our protective measures within school for some time now, and as such, are confident in ensuring a safe and smooth reopening for all children. We will continue to follow the guidance from the Department for Education (DfE), which states that schools should make sure that they are "following the system of controls to minimise the risk of infection". If you would like to read the full, updated document, it is available at the following link:

[DfE Schools coronavirus \(COVID-19\) operational guidance](#)

There are not many changes that we need to make to the existing procedures and safety measures that we were working with, prior to the third national lockdown. Here is a brief summary of our most important protective measures:

- **Asymptomatic testing** - Parents of children with secondary age siblings will be aware that government requires all secondary age children to undergo COVID testing on their return to school and detailed information has been sent out to parents regarding how this system will work. All primary and secondary staff will continue to be tested twice a week from 8<sup>th</sup> March.

**Secondary:** 01604 669200 **Primary:** 01604 669210 **Website:** [www.ccs.northants.sch.uk](http://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk)

**Principal:** David James **Vice Principals:** Andrew Fisher, Katherine Patterson, Gary Wakefield

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**The Wooldale Centre for Learning, Wootton Fields, Northampton NN4 6TP**

- **There is no requirement for primary age children to undergo asymptomatic testing.**
- **COVID symptoms** - If your child shows any symptoms of COVID then please continue to follow the government rules regarding self-isolation and testing: [Guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)
- **Self-isolation** - If your child is required to self-isolate or if it is necessary for a class/year group bubble to be closed and sent home to self-isolate, then children will continue to access their remote learning by logging into their MS Teams year group site.
- **Wearing of face masks** - All adults in school will now wear a face mask / covering in any area where social distancing is not possible (e.g., corridors, communal areas etc.). While our children are now used to seeing people in face masks, it may help to explain to your child that all adults will be wearing face coverings in school for the foreseeable future. **There is no requirement for primary pupils to wear face coverings whilst in school.**
- **Good ventilation** - Further evidence has shown that good room ventilation plays a vital role in preventing the transmission of the virus. We will continue to make sure that each classroom is well ventilated to reduce the concentration of any possible virus droplets in the air. Please make sure that your child comes to school wearing sufficient layers to ensure that they are warm enough in the classroom. A CCS fleece or hoodie provides additional warmth when worn over your child's school uniform. These can be purchased online from [The Schoolwear Shop](#) or pre-loved from the [CCS Friends Pre-loved Uniform Sale](#) website.
- **Hand hygiene** - Thorough handwashing and good respiratory hygiene continue to be the other most important protective measures that we have in place. Every primary classroom has a sink and dedicated times for hand washing are built into the timetable for each year group.
- **Classroom organisation** - All classrooms, with the exception of Foundation Stage and Year 1, will continue to have the front facing desk/table layouts that we were using previously.

## Attendance

From Monday 8th March, school attendance will be mandatory again. This means that from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply:

- Parents must ensure that if their child is of compulsory school age, their child regularly attends the school at which they are registered.
- School's responsibilities are to record attendance and follow up absence.
- Fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct may be issued for any unauthorised absence.
- If a child is going to be absent for half a day or more (for any reason other than illness), parents must give the school prior notice of this, by completing a Request for Absence form, which can be found on our website or by using the following link: [CCS Request for absence Form](#).

## Arrival / Departure Procedure

The arrival / departure points and times remain the same as during the autumn term. On arrival, please continue to use the designated primary gate and path, adjacent to the main car park entrance. Secondary phase students will continue to use the main school gate and path located by the bicycle racks.

The following table shows the arrival / departure locations for each year group, along with the relevant times to start and end the day.

Year Group	Entrance/Exit Gate	Arrival time	Start of day	End of day
Reception	Main Green Gate	8:20	8:30	2:50
Year 1	Primary Studio	8:30	8:40	3:00
Year 2	Emergency Gate	8:30	8:40	3:00
Year 3	Main Green Gate	8:40	8:50	3:10
Year 4	Emergency Gate	8:40	8:50	3:10
Year 5	Main Green Gate	8:50	9:00	3:20
Year 6	Emergency Gate	8:50	9:00	3:20

- Only one parent should accompany their child to and from school.
- Can we please remind parents that you **MUST** wear a face covering whilst on the school site and you **MUST** abide by social distancing rules when dropping off and collecting your child.
- Please be punctual when arriving in the morning to drop your children off, or to collect them when their session has finished, to minimise the number of people on the school grounds at any one time.
- If you also have another child attending the primary provision, your family should arrive at the earliest start time (i.e., the start time of the youngest sibling). At the end of the day, you may collect your children at the latest departure time of your family group (i.e., the finish time of the oldest sibling).

### Car Park / Drop-off Zone

The walking bus and drop-off zone arrangements remain the same for parents wishing to drop their child off outside the car park.

- We will continue to use the permit system in the car park during morning drop-off. Permits have been given to parents of all children in our Foundation Stage classes, permitting them to enter the school car park and use the 10-minute drop-off bays at the start of the day.
- Parents who do not have a Foundation Stage child should park outside the school grounds and walk in via the pedestrian gate that is to the right of the car park entrance, which follows the path alongside the central road of the car park.
- The car park is also open to those parents who have a blue badge for the use of the disabled parking bays. **Please ensure that you are not parking in a disabled parking bay if you do not have a valid blue badge.**

### PE Kits / Timetable

This term, we have a new PE & Sports coach, Mr Brenan, who will be working with us to support our PE curriculum. We are also planning to begin offering after-school clubs to some students. Due to the year group bubble restrictions, we will start by offering KS2 children the opportunity to attend an after-school sports club. More details, as well as a link to our online booking form will be sent out shortly, so please keep an eye out for these.

The timetable for PE will change when the children return to school. Details of your child's new PE day(s) will be sent to you separately. Children should continue to come to school, already wearing their PE kit (including suitable footwear) on the relevant day.

### Visitors and Meetings in school

We will still be operating a 'closed site' to visitors. If you wish to make contact with a member of primary staff, you should contact the primary office or the teacher directly, by email. Online meetings with teachers can be arranged, if necessary.

## Lunches

Our catering provider, Chartwells, will continue providing hot meals for all children entitled to Universal Free School Meals (FS/KS1). Parents of children in Years 3 – 6 may also now resume ordering and paying for meals for their children using their meals ParentPay account. **Please note that the deadline for ordering meals for the first week back is 23:59 on Thursday 4th March.** You will be unable to order meals for the first week back after this deadline has passed.

If you have any questions in relation to the reopening of school, please send an email to [primaryoffice@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:primaryoffice@ccs.northants.sch.uk).

Thank you for your continued support and patience through the last eight weeks. We look forward to welcoming all our children back and coming together as a whole school community, on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katherine Patterson', written in a cursive style.

Katherine Patterson  
Vice Principal