

Shirley Junior School

Return to school



**Information and changes for
September 2020-21**

Dear children and parents/carers,

Well, this was a strange school year wasn't it?! You have all done brilliantly with your learning at home and we have loved hearing all about the things you have been getting up to. We are very much looking forwards to things feeling a bit more normal in September, and to having the school filled with your enthusiastic voices and beaming smiles again!

We will be inviting all children from every year group back from the start of term, Monday 7th September, in class bubbles. Some things will be just like they have always been, and some things will feel a little different until you get used to them. This booklet will answer the questions you may have.

The first 3 weeks will be spent getting used to being in school, being with friends, being in a classroom, and being learners, again. There will be lots of physical activity, outdoor learning and PSHE, because we want you to feel safe and secure while you are here.

Smallprint for adults: *We understand that your children are incredibly precious to you - they are incredibly precious to us too and first and foremost we want to make sure they are OK. The school leaders are committed to ensuring that children's emotional wellbeing is at the forefront of all of our planning for September, and have done a lot of reading, learning and thinking around the challenges they (and we) will be facing due to the long lockdown period and global crisis.*

We have to be led by government guidelines but we have gone far beyond these in carefully planning a transitional period in the first few weeks, where the focus is on outdoor learning, PSHE, emotional wellbeing and resilience, before building back up to 'normal' project-led learning and filling in the missed learning from last year.

What will the start of the school day look like?

Each year group will arrive on foot, at a different time (see box). We are unable to store bikes and scooters at this time so please do not arrive on these.

Y3	08:30
Y4	08:45
Y5	09:00
Y6	09:15

You will line up on Bellemoor Road. You will come in through the main Junior gate, up the slope, in through the door by the hall and head straight up to your classroom, where you will wash your hands and order your lunch with your class teacher. The government no longer advise us to check your temperature every day at school.

Look out for the coloured sign up on the railings outside school that will tell you when it is your turn to line up on the pavement. We are more than happy for parents to line up with their children if they like but you must make sure you are social distancing. If you feel confident your parents can stand either on the road (as it will be closed) or on the opposite pavement and wave you in.

Smallprint for adults: if you are bringing children in different year groups, you may bring them all at the arrival time for the earliest year group – the other children can come in at that time and go straight up to their classrooms.

It is very likely that the Bellemoor Rd will be closed during pick up and drop off times (a request has been submitted), so please do not attempt to enter Bellemoor Rd from either the St James entrance or Wilton Rd. We are committed to the safety of our children on our roads and around the school. Please continue to support us in this by walking to school each day.

What will the end of the school day look like?

Each year group will leave at a different time (see box)

Y3	14:45
Y4	15:00
Y5	15:15
Y6	15:30

At the end of the day, classes will be brought out onto the playground to line up. Parents will file in through the side gate by the Community room, and will be led into the junior foyer by the hall and out onto the playground by a senior leader. As they walk across, their children will come over to join them and they will continue out through the main Junior gate.

Smallprint for adults: if you are collecting children in different year groups, please arrive at the time for whichever year group comes out first, and then wait over to the side of the playground, ensuring social distancing, until it is time to collect the remaining child/children. We cannot send children out early.

Unfortunately, because of access to the school grounds and needing to ensure one-way system, buggies will not be allowed on to the school site. If this affects you, please can you arrange for another parent to bring your child out to you on the road or leave the buggy by the infant sensory garden.

If you have arranged for your child to be collected by a child minder, it will be the child minder's responsibility to make these arrangements and ensure social distancing is adhered to at all times. Children waiting for siblings or other children to be collected will not be allowed to run around and play on the school site.

What will lunchtimes look like?

Year 3 and 4 will have outdoor play first, and will then eat their lunch in their classrooms. Years 5 and 6 will do the same but the opposite way round. The lunch break has needed to be shortened to allow for staggered start and end times, but there will be lots of extra physical activity throughout the week to make up for this,

How will we keep safe?

Hygiene is **very** important. You will be asked to use the school's hand sanitizer regularly in the classroom as well as washing your hands at points throughout the day. Door handles and taps will be disinfected by an adult in the toilets regularly throughout the day. Year 5 and 6 will use the toilets on the upper floor and Year 3 & 4 will use the mid-level toilets. Entrances to the toilets will remain propped open at all times and signs will be on the toilet cubicles for girls and boys in different year groups. We will be teaching pupils to keep themselves safe by keeping their hands away from their faces, avoiding touching bannisters and walls etc.

Some adults may be wearing face mask, gloves or coverings when working closely with children who require support or medical care.

What will happen if I feel ill?

Before school: please do not come to school if you have a cough, temperature or loss of taste or smell. Your adult will need to take care of you at home until you have been tested.

Whilst at school: If you come down with a cough, temperature or loss of taste or smell whilst at school, you will be looked after away from your bubble until your adult can come and collect you.

Will hot dinners be available?

Children will be given the options to order a packed lunch or grab and go from Chartwells. They will be eating packed lunch (either provided from home or ordered from Chartwells) in their classrooms. We encourage you to bring your lunch in a disposable bag. If not, please make sure you clean the lunch box thoroughly each day.

When shall I bring my water bottle to school and how will I keep it clean?

We would like you to bring your water bottle in on a Monday and keep it in school all week. It will be emptied out at the end of each day and the lid will be sterilised overnight, and it will be reassembled and refilled the next morning. You can take it home again on Friday. This is safer than taking it home every evening.

What shall I wear to school?

As per the DfE guidance, pupils are not to change clothes in school. We will be focussing on increasing children's physical exercise as a result of lockdown so they will be taking part in daily healthy and active activities. To reduce the risk of viral transmission we do not want the children to be changing into PE kits. Therefore, all children are asked to wear **the agreed school PE kit to school each day**. Although we still want children to come dressed smartly to school, because of the increased level of physical activity we feel that the school PE kit is a more suitable choice to wear all day. All children are asked to wear suitable **trainers** to school; please try to choose plain, dark colours or white.

PE kit does NOT need to be washed every day and children are not required to wear fresh clothes every day although we do actively encourage this to help prevent germs coming from home.

Here is a reminder of the agreed school PE kit:

Top: either the school green, house sports top, available from Skoolkit, or a white collared polo shirt.



Shorts: either plain black or green sports shorts, cycling shorts or the usual grey school shorts. Girls may choose to wear a plain black sports skirt of a sensible length instead. These can be purchased cheaply from the usual outlets and super markets. As part of the kit, when cold, children may wear plain black jogging pants, leggings or training trousers. **No logos are allowed.** These can be purchased cheaply from the usual outlets and super markets.



Children may choose to wear either their normal school jumper/cardigan or the agreed SJS sports hoodie which is available from Skoolkit.

Smallprint for adults: These uniform changes will be for at least the Autumn term but we anticipate they may be for the entire year.

What type of bag can I bring to school?

Children are to bring as little as possible with them to school in order to reduce the risk of transmission. We ask that children **DO NOT bring rucksacks or bags to school**. Children are asked to use a book back to carry their reading book, planner and homework, along with their lunch box. There are several options for book bags;



Cost £3.50-£5

£2.99 (eBay)

These can be purchased from eBay, Amazon, School trends, Skoolkit etc. The colour and design is up to the individual although it **MUST** be a book/music sheet handheld bag that can easily be stored in the classroom.

Will children get a reading book and planner?

You will be able to have a reading book and planner with you in school and take it home each night. All books will be cleaned after they have been used. You are to look after your own resources at your desk.

Will I need to bring back my school pencil case?

Yes, please! Although We will give you a brand new pencil case, colouring pencils, pen as we usually do at the start of the school year if you do not have it at home.

Will learning time be lost if the school day is staggered?

You will not lose any learning time due to us staggering the drop off and pick up at the end of the school day. We will be adjusting break times and lunchtimes to ensure you have a full day at school. This is in line with the guidance from the Government in July 2020.

Will there be after school clubs and breakfast club available?

We hope to get these up and running as soon as possible in September. We will let you know in September once these arrangements have been made with the providers.

What happens if there is a confirmed case of COVID19 in the school?

If a case is confirmed by testing, the entire bubble will be shut for 14 days from the day of the positive test. The other household members do not need to self-isolate unless it is their child who tested positive.

In this instance, we will put in place online learning for that bubble via a learning platform

What is the plan if there is a second wave – in particular for home learning provision if there is another period of extended home-schooling.

In the event of a second wave, we will follow government guidelines and will be able to build on our (already very successful and well-received) home learning provision. Plans are in place to introduce and train you to use an online platform in case a bubble of children need to self-isolate in September.

Will there be whole school celebrations?






We will not be able to have whole school or class celebrations for some time as we are not allowed to gather as a large group or invite parents in to the school. This also includes singing and assemblies. With this in mind, we are not planning on being able to have any Christmas performances this year, including the Christingle. We will be coming up with new ideas to be able to have a celebration for this time of year instead. The classes will be having class assemblies to ensure our PSHE curriculum is still covered. Mrs Hixon, Mrs Tearle and Mrs Nutbeam are practising their onscreen voices for live streaming instead!

Should I continue with home learning over the summer?

The teachers have provided all of you with a summer holiday project and a learning values activity grid. We would also really like you to continue doing **Reading Plus at least three times a week**. Effort stars will be award to all pupils in September for all the amazing things you achieve over the summer holidays.

Who are all the adults in Shirley Junior School next year?







Senior Leaders

				
Mrs A Hixon Headteacher	Mrs J Tearle Deputy Headteacher	Mrs A Booth Assistant Headteacher	Mrs K Davie Phase Leader Yr5 & 6	Miss M Broadway Phase Leader Yr3 & 4

Inclusion Team

	
Mrs S Nutbeam Inclusions	Mrs B Patten SENDCO
	
Miss F McCallum ELSA	Mrs K Allen Family Support Worker

Year 3

					
Miss M Broadway Class Teacher	Mr A Tough Class Teacher	Miss L Guy Class Teacher	Mrs E Zalewska Teaching Assistant	Miss J Ryder Teaching Assistant	Miss A Gaze Teaching Assistant

Year 4

					
Miss L Vincent Class Teacher	Mrs J Connelly Class Teacher	Mrs K Blake Class Teacher	Mrs S Mintram Teaching Assistant	Mr B Hinton Teaching Assistant	Mrs E Eastell Teaching Assistant

Cover Teachers

	
Miss A Peck Teaching Assistant	Mrs S Andrews Teacher
	
Mrs M Down French	

Year 5

					
Mrs A Booth Class Teacher	Mr Sam Byrne Class Teacher	Miss K Chalk Class Teacher	Miss S Roberts Class Teacher	Miss X Cabdullahi Teaching Assistant	Mrs C Richmond Teaching Assistant

Year 6

							
Mrs K Davie Class Teacher	Mr J Richards Class Teacher	Mrs A McQuay Class Teacher	Mrs C Mendez Class Teacher	Mrs F Maccallum Teaching Assistant	Mrs K Glasspool Teaching Assistant	Miss E King Teaching Assistant	Mrs S Netiatis Teaching Assistant

Extra FAQs for Parents/Carers:

Why have you split Y4 classes?

This is not a decision we have taken lightly; we know that their transition will be affected by this but we strongly felt it was in the best interest of the majority of the children in the year group, to enable them to make the best progress possible over the next two years. Parents have been consulted and asked to let us know the children their child works best with and these have been taken into account when creating the new classes.

What will happen if I choose to keep my children at home - will you offer alternative provision for my child?

No, we will not be offering alternative provision. The current government guidelines are for every child to return in September, and schools will be directed to impose fines for non-attendance. If the guidelines around shielding come back into force then we will respond to this, but otherwise we expect children in school, and parents are advised to contact the school individually if they have concerns.

From the latest government guidance:

Shielding advice for all adults and children will pause on 1 August, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can also return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding.

Some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school (usually at their next planned clinical appointment)

Will there be any curriculum catch up provision in line with what the government suggested? If so, what will that look like?

Subject leaders have spent time looking at the objectives in their subjects that have been missed due to the closure, and working out which are the highest priority and how to cover these in the next year/years for each cohort, so there is a plan going forward for each subject and each year group. As they do in their normal day-to-day job, teachers will be assessing gaps and planning how to fill these through their teaching.

Working Together

We are so proud of all the hard work all the school staff have put in during this time. We know these times continue to bring challenges to our daily lives and the current situation causes us to have to do more thinking and planning. We do truly know how hard this is and we want to assure you that all plans and risk assessments we have put in place are following the government guidance and are there to keep all of us safe.

We are still always willing to speak to you if you have any issues, concerns or questions. Unfortunately, at this time, the school office will remain physically closed to parents and visitors, so if you would like to speak to your child's teacher or any other member of staff at any time about your child's own personal circumstances, please make an appointment by emailing or calling the office. We will respond to you via a phone call or email. We will continue to put all information on the school website.

We are all looking forward to working through this together in our family community and we cannot wait to have you all back!

We hope you have a really enjoyable summer, see you in September!

Mrs Hixon, Mrs Tearle and all the staff at Shirley Junior School

Handwritten signatures of Mrs Hixon and Mrs Tearle in black ink.