

COPPERMILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning Together, Achieving Forever

Wednesday 15th July 2020

School Re-opening for all pupils in September 2020 (Autumn Term)

Dear Parent/s

As you are likely aware, the government has announced that schools should fully re-open next academic year. They have decided this on the basis of:

- The prevalence of coronavirus decreasing
- The new NHS Test and Trace system being in place
- More clarity about the measures that need to be in place to create safe environments in schools
- Time out of school being detrimental to children's development
- The low risk to children of becoming severely ill from coronavirus

This means we are planning to open to all of our pupils on **Monday 7th September** and we are working hard to make the school a safe, enjoyable environment. We are getting in touch to explain what you can expect from us and what we will expect from all of you.

Attendance

Attendance will be mandatory in September, as the government expects all pupils to attend school. The usual rules will apply, meaning we will be recording attendance and following up on any absences.

If your children have been staying at home due to the current shielding guidance, the government is due to pause this guidance on 1st August if there's a continued decline in coronavirus transmission rates. That means they should be able to come back to school in September. However, if you've received clinical or public health advice that your children should still remain at home, please let us know by providing the relevant evidence and continue to follow that guidance.

Staggered Start and Finish Times

The start / finish times and entrances / exits will be as follows for all year groups. This will not reduce the amount of time we spend teaching.

Class	Start Time	Finish Time	Entrance / Exit Gate
Reception Sun	8:50am	3:30pm	Main School Gate
Year 1 Mars	9:00am	3:40pm	Main School Gate
Year 2 Saturn	8:40am	3:20pm	KS1 / Park Gate
Year 3 Neutron	8:50am	3:30pm	KS1 / Park Gate
Year 3 Nebula	9:00am	3:40pm	KS1 / Park Gate
Year 4 Jupiter	8:40am	3:20pm	Car Park Gate
Year 5 Earth	8:50am	3:30pm	Car Park Gate
Year 6 Supernova	9:00am	3:40pm	Car Park Gate

We politely ask that you to adhere to our risk assessment by:

- dropping-off and collecting your child promptly using the allocated entrance and exit gate
- we ask that you do not enter the school building (except when visiting the main school office) unless you have a pre-booked appointment
- where possible, ensuring that siblings do not enter the classroom and do not touch any of the outdoor play equipment when dropping-off and collecting your child
- using the hand sanitiser when entering and exiting our school
- trying to maintain social distancing wherever possible

Safety Measures

When your children come into school, we will have the following protective measures in place:

Travelling to school - we would encourage you to walk, cycle or scoot to school where possible.

School Uniform - all pupils will be required to wear their full school uniform from the beginning of the Autumn Term 2020.

P.E. - all pupils are required to wear their full P.E. kit to school on their allocated P.E. day. You will be advised of your child's P.E. day during their first week at school.

Classrooms – classroom layouts have changed in order to help maintain distance between pupils. Children will be seated in pairs, facing the front of the class.

Equipment - we will be restricting the items that pupils can bring to school to those that are essential only. Each child is permitted to bring in their book bag and a water bottle – please ensure they are clearly labelled with their name. We understand that some children may travel to school wearing a mask, however there will be no need for them to wear it in school.

Bubbles - pupils will remain in their year group bubbles (see table below) for all activities and learning throughout the school day. For younger children, the emphasis will be on separating groups and for older children, it will be on distancing.

Bubble A	Bubble B	Bubble C
Nursery Comet Reception Sun Year 1 Mars	Year 2 Saturn Year 3 Nebula Year 3 Neutron	Year 4 Jupiter Year 5 Earth Year 6 Supernova

Lunchtimes – the children will remain in their year group bubbles for lunch in the school hall (staggered times). If your child usually has a school meal, this will be provided as normal and eaten alongside classmates who bring in a packed lunch.

Hygiene – all staff and pupils will wash their hands regularly throughout the day (on arrival, after play, before and after lunch). The class teachers will speak to the children at the beginning about the rules on hygiene including 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'.

Cleaning – a thorough cleaning schedule is in place. Children and teachers will also regularly be involved with the cleaning process in class.

School Trips – we will not be undertaking any school trips that involve public transport during the Autumn Term. Any local trips will only go ahead following a thorough educational visit risk assessment.

After-school Enrichment Clubs - we will not be running any after-school enrichment clubs during the Autumn Term.

Extended Services Provision – breakfast and tea-time club will begin again from the start of the Autumn Term and children will remain in their bubbles. In order to ensure that we can adhere to our risk assessment, future numbers may be limited.

Asthma Inhalers and Epipens - if your child uses an asthma inhaler or an epipen, it is essential that you obtain an up-to-date healthcare and / or asthma plan over the summer holidays and provide the inhaler or epipen to the school office on the first day of term.

Our school risk assessment will be available to view on our school website by the beginning of the Autumn Term, at the latest.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Symptoms

In order to make the school as safe as possible, the following will apply:

- Please ensure that pupils do not come into school if they, or anyone in their household, has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or have tested positive in the last 7 days
- If a pupil becomes unwell in school with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature or has a loss of (or change in) their normal sense of taste or smell – they will be sent home
- If we send a pupil home with possible symptoms, we advise parents to follow:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>
- The guidance sets out that anyone with possible symptoms must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should engage with the NHS Test and Trace process, so that cases can be identified and the appropriate action taken
- If your child develops symptoms you should arrange for them to get a test and you should inform the school of the results of that test prior to their return to school
- It is essential that we are able to contact parents or an emergency contact in this circumstance - please ensure we have up-to-date contact telephone numbers for you and that you are available to take a telephone call at all times.

Curriculum

Although there will need to be some changes to reflect the teaching time that was lost during the lockdown, we will still be doing our best to provide an ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum.

Our current plan is to:

- assess pupils coming back to school to identify their starting points and gaps in their knowledge created over lockdown.
- prioritise maths and literacy teaching.
- continue to provide interventions for those children who require additional support.
- provide the Google Classroom learning if there is a local lockdown or for individual pupils who may need to self-isolate.
- follow the guidance regarding having no singing assembly or wind instruments and a reduced music provision.
- ensuring all P.E. lessons will take place outside, whenever possible, and all P.E. activities will be non-contact.

Pastoral Support

We will start the Autumn Term by focusing on the 'Recovery and Resilience' Curriculum, to help pupils express themselves and begin the process of healing following such an unprecedented pandemic. We will look in-depth at enabling creativity, care and compassion and how kindness accelerates the healing and recovery process. We will build these into our P4C / PSHE curriculum to aid critical thinking for our pupils.

We will also continue to:

- ensure that our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) will provide specific well-being support to pupils that need it
- specifically help pupils who are vulnerable or who have difficulty re-engaging in school
- provide support and interventions for pupils with SEND

Please let us know if you think your child/ren might need extra support when returning to school, such as if they feel anxious about coming back or they're experiencing bereavement. You can get in touch with the school office to do this by e-mailing school@coppermill.waltham.sch.uk

For further information regarding the full opening of schools in the Autumn Term, please refer to the following website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

We're extremely grateful for all the support we have received so far from our school community. We will continue to keep in touch if there are any updates to our plans or if we need to make changes due to new or updated government advice.

Wishing you an enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming all children back to school in September.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Figen Bektaşoğlu

Headteacher

