



Parents Opening Plan For September – FAQ – 11th September 2020

Question	School Response
September Plans	
1. Will you be open fully in September?	Yes. All children are expected to be back full time from Thursday 3rd September.
2. My child will start in Nursery / Reception in September. When will they be in full time?	Parents in Nursery and Reception have received their transition letters. If you have not, please contact the school office at secretary@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk All children will be in full time from Monday 14 th September. The days before this will be used as transition.
3. Will KOOSA Kids be running breakfast & after-school provision?	Yes. Please see information on our website under Parents/September 2020 Information about the KOOSA Kids offering, including booking information and costs.
4. Will other after school clubs be running?	No. Our usual offer of sport (football and gymnastics) clubs run by SCL and the dance company will not be running in the autumn term.
5. Will my child be in their normal classroom with their teacher?	Yes. All children will be back in their normal classrooms with their class teacher and teaching assistant.



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6. Will children/classes still be in bubbles?	<p>Yes. In September, children will be in year group bubbles of 60 children. As normal, they will still have 30 children in their class, but allowing them to mix with their year group will help us manage the children when we have break time and over lunch.</p> <p>We may also put the year group together to do assemblies.</p>
7. My child has an Education, Health Care Plan (EHCP). Can they come to school?	<p>Yes. Please contact us and we will discuss your child's provision and if you have any concerns. We may need to a risk assessment to ensure it is safe for your child to attend.</p>
8. What will the classroom look like in September?	<p>Classes in nursery, Reception and Y1 will be normal 'free-flow'.</p> <p>For classes from Y2-Y6 – tables will be front facing and children will be at desks.</p> <p>Like now, there will be less resources and soft toys available and all resources will need to be cleaned regularly. Each year group will have their own PE equipment and children will be provided with their own pencils/pens in a wallet.</p>
9. Do I have to send my child to school? If I don't, will there be fines?	<p>Yes, you will need to send your child/ren to school from September. The government expect schools to fine parents for any unauthorised absence.</p>
10. Our holiday was cancelled and has been rearrange for term time. Can I take them? Will I be fined?	<p>All children are expected to be back full time in September and fines will issues for any unauthorised attendance as usual.</p>
Safety (Social Distancing, PPE, First Aid)	



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<p>11. How will social distancing work? How will children be kept apart? Will my child be able to interact with other children in their bubble?</p>	<p>While we will remind children about the social distance rules and have signs around the school, we know that young children will not be able to do this. We will endeavour to keep children apart by spacing tables and furniture appropriately. By staying in their 'bubble', the DfE believe this will minimise risk.</p> <p>We will have signs in the corridors reminding children about keeping social distance. We will constantly be talking and reminding children of the rules.</p> <p>When children are in their bubble they will still be able to talk to other children.</p> <p>Although sometimes they will be sat at a desk on their own, there will still be interaction throughout the day.</p>
<p>12. Will my child be encouraged to wash their hands?</p>	<p>Yes. Each class will have soap/water and hand sanitiser. The children will clean their hands regularly throughout the day. They will clean them when they come into the building, especially after playing outside, after they have been to the toilet, before eating and at regular intervals during the day.</p>
<p>13. Will school staff wear PPE equipment?</p>	<p>Some staff will be wearing masks/visors when in close contact with children. PPE equipment is available for staff if they need to intimately care (change) a child, or administer more than basic First Aid.</p> <p>We have a head gun thermometer that is available if needed.</p>
<p>14. Can my child wear a face mask?</p>	<p>No. The Government guidance says that children do not need to wear face masks. Children will be asked to remove face masks when they arrive at school.</p>
<p>15. Will you be taking the children and staff temperature regularly?</p>	<p>No. The Government guidance says this is not needed.</p>



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16. How often will you be cleaning?	<p>We will clean the classroom daily and the communal toilets throughout the day – including frequently used ‘touch-points’, wiping down tables, empty bins and cleaning resources.</p> <p>Our cleaning team will also clean each room at the end of the day.</p>
17. What happens if my child is unwell? Should I bring them to school?	No. Please only send your child to school if they are fit and healthy.
18. What happens if my child becomes unwell during the day?	We will follow the latest guidance from Public Health England (PHE). If your child becomes ill during the day, we will isolate them in a room and call the parent to take them home. If they show any signs of COVID19 we will ask you to get them tested and stay at home until you have the test result back.
19. What happens if anyone contracts COVID19 virus?	We will follow the latest guidance from Public Health England (PHE). If anyone tests positive for COVID19, PHE will do a risk assessment and give us guidance. (See flow chart on our website).
20. Will staff be able to comfort children if they are upset, unsettled or hurt themselves?	It will be very difficult to comfort a child if they are upset and retain social distancing.
21. How will you administer first aid?	We will administer First Aid. In the first instances, we will ask the child to wipe their own cut or bruise and administer the plasters. If needed, staff will have PPE equipment and administer First Aid themselves.
22. How can you keep 5 and 6 year-old children apart and safe?	We can't completely. We will be constantly reminding children of the Social Distance rule. Each class will have a “cleaning pack” which will include wipes and hand sanitizer. Children will have regular hand washing schedules using soap and running water.
Learning and well-being	



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23. Will my child have their class teacher?	Yes
24. Will my child fall behind in their learning?	All children are in the same situation. When we return in September teachers will assess them and plan work to support them, filling any gaps in their learning.
25. When will children have access to the 'full' curriculum?	<p>We will spend at least the first half term following a Recovery Curriculum. The focus will be the children's academic (English, Maths and assessment) in the morning and supporting their mental and emotional well-being in the afternoon.</p> <p>In the mornings, teachers will assess children in Reading, Writing and Maths and identify the gaps in their learning. Our priority will be to close any gaps as soon as possible.</p> <p>In the afternoon, we will have six whole school PSHE themes – such as Managing Change, Being Challenged and Our Support. This will give teachers time to address any worries, anxieties or concerns children may have.</p> <p>We will review this over half term and decide if to move back to normal 'topic' based learning.</p>
26. My child is becoming anxious. What help is available?	<p>In School If your child is in school the class teacher is more likely to be able to manage any worries or anxieties your child will have. If needed, additional support from our SENCo, FSA or our play therapist is also available.</p> <p>At Home If you are having any difficulties or concerns about your child, please contact us.</p>



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27. Can my child bring in a cuddly toy?	Please do not give your child a cuddly toy to bring in. As much as possible we still want to minimise items that could carry the virus. The classroom will have some toys and play equipment that we will keep clean.
Curriculum and Learning (in school)	
28. What will the lessons look like if toys that are hard to clean are taken away?	Like now, there will be a considerable reduction in toys. Only toys and resources that are easily washed will be available for children. We will limit the amount of books being used and books will not be marked. Teachers will give children verbal feedback to enable the children to improve their learning.
29. Will the library be open?	At the beginning of term, we will close the library. We will review the situation again in the autumn term.
30. Will there be school trips, visitors or an enrichment activities	No. At the moment, we are not planning for any enrichment activities during the Autumn term.
In school routines	
31. What will break times look like?	Break times will be taken on a rotation basis so that only a few year groups are outside at any one time. Each group will have an allocated 'zone' – either on the lower playground, top playground or field. We will still try to minimise any crossover with other bubbles.
32. Will there be assemblies?	There will no large assemblies in the school hall. We will hold virtual assemblies (using Microsoft TEAMS) with children staying in their classrooms. We may hold year group assemblies.



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<p>33. How will you teach Music? Will peripatetic teachers be back?</p>	<p>Children will have access to music lessons, but these will be without music equipment. There will be no singing assemblies or choir practice. We are working with Berkshire Maestros and are planning to have peripatetic music back teachers back.</p>
<p>34. How will you teach PE? Will children have contact sports? Will there be any competitions?</p>	<p>We will continue to teach PE. There will be one dedicated lesson a week, but we will encourage the children to do as much physical activity during the day as possible. Where possible most PE lessons will be outside. When inside we will not use the climbing ropes, or large equipment.</p> <p>Children will wear their PE kit to school on their PE day. Please make sure your child has the correct PE uniform.</p>
<p>35. Trips</p>	<p>During the autumn term, we will not have any school trips or visitors.</p>
<p>36. Coats and Book bags</p>	<p>Cloakrooms and pegs will not be used. We want to minimise what children bring into school. Therefore, children do not need to bring their book bag, or rucksack to school during the autumn term.</p> <p>All children should bring in a water bottle, healthy snack and if needed, a packed lunch.</p>
<p>37. Will my child need to wear uniform?</p>	<p>Yes. Mike Wagstaff will be in school on 3rd September. Please check the school website for further details and his contact details. https://www.birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=30</p> <p>There is some second hand uniform available if parents are worried about buying new uniform.</p>



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<p>38. How will lunches work?</p>	<p>The kitchen is open with a reduced menu. Please see the school website for further details and the menu. https://www.birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Lunch+and+break+time&pid=33</p> <p>Parents must order online for their child's lunch at home by midnight the day before and pay online. Children in Reception & Y1 will have lunch in the Studio Hall and all other year groups will eat in their classrooms. No cash will be accepted in school.</p> <p>Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to receive free meals under the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UFSM) provision.</p>
<p>39. Are snacks and milk available in September?</p>	<p>In Infants (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) fruit will be provided. For Children under the age of five, milk is available. Further information about milk can be found on our website</p> <p>Children in Key Stage 2 (Y3-Y6) please provide them with a healthy snack (fruit).</p> <p>All children should bring in a bottle containing water only.</p>
<p>Dropping off and collecting Arrangements</p>	
<p>40. How will drop off work and pick up work? What happens if I have a sibling?</p>	<p>You will be given a specific time to drop and collect your child. We will also have markers in the playground. There will be staggered start and end times to reduce the number of people on site.</p> <p>No parents will be allowed into the school building or into classrooms.</p>



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Only one parent/carer will be allowed into the office area at a time.

Drop off times

If you have a siblings, please drop off your siblings at the **earlier** time.

Year Group	Time	Gate
Y5/6	8:30 - 8.40	Back Gate
Y3/4	8:30	Bottom playground gate
Y1/2	8:40	Bottom playground gate
Reception	8:50	Bottom playground gate
Nursery	8:50	Bottom playground gate

Pick up times

If you have a siblings, please collect your siblings at the **earlier** time.

Year Group	Time	Gate
Y5/6	3:20	Bottom playground gate
Y3/4	3:10	Bottom playground gate
Y1/2	3:00	Bottom playground gate
Reception	3:20	Bottom playground gate
Nursery	3:20	Bottom playground gate

Please try to avoid coming to the school office and use email or phone. If you are coming to the office, please wear a mask.

If you need to speak to your class teacher please contact the school office to arrange a telephone call.

Others Practicalities



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41. What will happen if there is a second wave? Will there be another Lockdown?	<p>If there is a second wave, the Local Authority will direct schools. We are writing a contingency plan and will share it with you in September.</p> <p>If we are closed, it is likely that we will close for the vast majority of children and families and only open for Key Workers and Vulnerable children and Home Learning will resume.</p>
42. I usually volunteer in school. Can I come into school?	Unfortunately no. During this period we will not have any volunteers or workshops in school.
43. Where can I send any feedback or suggestion	Please contact the school office if you have any feedback or suggestions. secretary@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk