



JOHN HAMPDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
COVID-19 – MARCH 2021
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

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How we plan to reduce risks for pupils parents and staff

The well-being of your children continues to be of the utmost importance to all of the staff at John Hampden School. On Monday 8th March, all children will return to school and we cannot wait to welcome everyone back. As numbers increase we wish to assure you that we will be just as sensitive and caring to all of your children in ways that don't involve close contact.

The government have recognised that social distancing is a real challenge in Primary settings and whilst we agree, we will encourage safe distancing as part of our ongoing measures such as robust hand and respiratory hygiene; enhanced cleaning arrangements; active engagement with NHS test and trace and, for staff, twice weekly lateral flow testing.

COVID19 Lateral Flow Testing for households of school children and staff

The government has just announced that families of children in school can access regular, twice weekly, lateral flow testing. Please note, at this stage these are for adults not children. We would strongly encourage you to engage with this testing programme as it will further reduce the risk of the spread of coronavirus in our community.

Please open the link below for information on how to access your home testing kits:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Staggered Hours

Our school gates will open to everybody once again on **Monday 8th March 2021**. We will be open every day from Monday to Friday with deep and thorough cleans occurring after school.

In order to reduce the number of children on the school premises at any one time, we will continue to operate a staggered start. A reminder of timings are as follows:

Bedivere and Lancelot – 8.30am – 2.55pm

Galahad and Gawain – 8.45 – 3.10pm

Start times are over a 10-minute window (i.e.8.30-8.40 / 8.45-8.55) but please make sure that your child is no later as we will be **closing gates at 9am**.

Drop-off Arrangements

We wish to try a new arrangement for drop-off points given the bottle-neck in Elms Park and the path leading to it, as well as supporting the prevention of meetings of crowds in the park after school until it is safe and legal to do so.



We have liaised with another local school of a similar size who, like us, have three gates in operation. They were deemed, through a covid safety inspection, to comply with guidelines and are confident that their system works. Therefore we are adopting a similar system.

From Monday, please choose the gate nearest to your house to enter and exit the grounds (the one-way system will not be in operation). You will need to vigilantly keep your distance from other adults – particularly any you meet coming from the opposite direction. Options are:

Back gate

Gate one (closest to the vape shop)

Gate 2 (closest to the school driveway)

All adults on the premises must **wear a mask** whilst on site. We ask that **only one person** drops off a child and that you remain mindful of others as you walk through the school. Your children will go straight in to class and you will be asked to wave goodbye as you continue to move through towards the exit. Please stick to timings to reduce hanging around and large volumes of people entering and exiting simultaneously.

Staff will be present to ensure that drop-off and pick-up times are as smooth as possible. You will collect your child in the same way at the end of the day.

Please note that parking in the school grounds is only for people with permits. We would encourage you to park and stride from the town centre if you do not live within walking distance. In the interests of Health and Safety we have taken the decision to close our car park gates at these peak times to ensure everybody's safety when crossing the driveway.

The gates to our carpark will be locked between 8:30am-8:55am and 2:45pm-3:15pm.

Please note that these arrangements are open to review and subject to change.

Bubbles

Government guidelines permit school bubbles to extend to a year group with the caveat that we keep mixing to a minimum. We will therefore be able to allow playtimes between year groups. For lesson times, we will be keeping to classes and not mixing for subjects such as maths. The principle of bubbles is to ensure that contacts between children and staff are kept to a minimum so help reduce the risk of infection. We need to balance this principle with the educational and emotional well-being of the children.

Each year group bubble will have a team of regular staff plus a designated classroom, toilet facility and outdoor space to use throughout the day.



Ocean Class	Sky Class	Aqua Class	Periwinkle Class
Mrs Watson Mrs Hawthorne Mr Fox	Mrs Cathcart Mrs Hawthorne Mr Fox	Mrs Gillies (M/T) Mrs Davis (W/Th/F) Mrs Phillips Miss Pym	Miss Butler (M/T) Mrs Begley (W/Th/F) Mrs Adams Mrs Eason

Coral Class	Amber Class	Fuschia Class	Rose Class
Mrs Wrigglesworth (F) Mrs Chaplin-Stephens (M-Th) Mrs Bevis Miss Bell	Mrs Haythorne Mrs Meier Mrs Duffell Miss Harris	Miss Burt Mrs Lennon	Mrs Arnett Mrs Meier

Mulberry Class	Amethyst Class	Indigo Class	Sapphire Class
Mrs Perring (M/T/W) Mrs Warner (Th/F) Mrs Byard Mrs Roberts	Mrs Newbrook (M/T/Th/F) Mrs Warner (W) Mrs Braybrook	Ms Nichols Mrs Baker/Mrs Smith Mrs Little	Mrs Parry Mrs Smith/Mrs Baker Mrs Little Mrs Williams Mrs Hendy

Emerald Class	Fern Class	Ruby Class	Crimson Class	Scarlet Class
Mrs Thomas Mrs Laws Mr Eyre	Mrs Wormald Mrs Strawbridge Mr Borgnis	Mrs Craig (M/T) Mrs Field (W/Th/F) Mrs Bottomley	Mr Nutt Mr Eyre Mr Borgnis	Mrs Schleising Mrs Bowler

All spaces and equipment will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of the day. Table-tops will be cleaned throughout the day by the staff in the bubble.

Children and staff will be washing their hands regularly throughout the day with soap and water. If your child has sensitive skin or an allergy, please provide them with their own soap. Within each bubble, there will also be a hand sanitising pump which will be used in addition to hand washing routines. Staff will be responsible for cleaning their bubble throughout the day and the whole school site will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of the day.

Each bubble will have their own first aid kit, resources and sports equipment which will remain with them throughout the week. Each child will have their own supply of stationery that only they can use.



Where practical, internal doors will be propped open so that no one needs to touch them.

The reading room in the Vernon Building has been allocated as a medical room for any pupil or staff member showing signs of COVID-19 symptoms. This room is well ventilated and has facilities and access to PPE equipment as well as a phone so that parents can be contacted immediately.

What to Bring and Wear

As with term's one and two, children must wear school uniform each day. However, we will not be changing for PE so they may come to school dressed in school PE clothes and wear trainers (please note that we will be outside in all weathers so outer clothing such as a waterproof jacket may be needed). PE days are as follows:

Year 1: Wed/Fri

Year 2: Tues/Fri

Year 3: Tues/Wed (Mulberry) Wed/Thur (Amethyst)

Year 4: Wed/Thur

Year 5: Wed/Thur

Year 6: Mon/Fri

We would like to discourage children from bringing bags to school to avoid congestion in cloakrooms and to minimise items going to and from school. They will only need a water bottle, snack, coat and sun hat. All Nursery, Reception and Year One children are asked to bring a change of clothes which can be kept in a bag on their pegs for the term. **Please endeavour to stick to this arrangement unless absolutely necessary**, in which case, bags should be as small as possible.

Please note that home learning books can remain at home but any unused exercise books can be returned for quarantining.

Lunch Arrangements

We would like to encourage as many pupils as possible to have a hot school meal. Dolce will be providing hot meals as well as packed lunches. Children in Reception and Key Stage One will continue to receive free school meals.

KS2 children will need to pay for meals (unless you are entitled to free school meals). This will remain at £2.30. We understand that this may not be practical for you for a number of reasons so if your child brings a packed lunch, please ensure that all packaging is disposable or that boxes are wipeable.

You will need to use the usual Dolce (School Grid) online system to book lunches.

Fruit snacks for Early Years and Key Stage One are provided once again but, as normal, Key Stage Two children will need to bring their own healthy snack.



Attendance

Registers will be taken each morning as usual and you will be contacted if we are expecting your child. All children are expected to return to school in September and any unexplained absence will be marked as unauthorised.

Illness/absence needs to be reported in the usual way (by telephone or e mail before 9am). You must not send your child to school if they are displaying any COVID-19 symptoms. If a child or adult has a **confirmed case** of COVID-19, all members of their class and possibly other classes will need to isolate at home for the following 14 days.

You will not be permitted to enter the school office at any time. The admin staff will be available via the intercom system at the gate or by telephone and e mail.

Parents Evening

Please be on the lookout for a parent mail next week outlining our arrangements for Parents Evenings this term (scheduled for weeks beginning 15th and 22nd March). These will be via zoom or a phone call but will need to be booked via our parent mail system.

Support from you

We are committed to following guidelines and making our school day as safe as possible and we ask that you do the same by observing social distancing and other measures we have outlined. To comply with current regulations, we must remind you that **meeting in groups is still prohibited** so please make sure you do not hang around the school site and surrounding communal areas after drop-off and pick-ups. The school is having to adopt strict social distancing measures in order to give your children the opportunity to get back to school as soon as possible.

It would undermine all of our efforts and careful planning if families and children did not abide by the government's current social distancing rules out of school – and such breaches of common sense and the government's STAY ALERT message could possibly lead to closure of some year groups or indeed the whole school.

We have been grateful for your support over the past few months, which we know has been a challenging time for all of our families. The teachers have loved receiving work and messages from your children and, **as a staff, we are truly looking forward to fully reopening and to see John Hampden School come alive again.**

For any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school via e mail.

Best wishes

Mr Hankey

