



SEPTEMBER 2021 Guidance for families

From 2nd September 2021, we will take a **progressive but cautious approach** to reopening that will hopefully maintain some of the safer practices that we have had in place whilst allowing more freedom for us all. Some lockdown changes we made to school routines have had a positive impact and we will want to keep some of these changes moving forwards. Other routines will revert back to pre-lockdown arrangements.

Currently, Knowsley remains an enhanced support area and we are all fully aware that restrictions may change at any time. If we need to reinstate any restrictions, we will let you know and revert back to our current risk assessment. At the moment, we hope for a return to normality.

**The children will return on Thursday 2nd September. Doors open at 8.30 - 8.50am.
We will revert back to pre-lockdown timetables.**

Pick up times for Reception, Y1 and Y2: 3.10pm

Pick up times for Y3, 4, 5 and 6: 3.15pm

Please pick up younger siblings first.

Nursery and Reception children should all now know their individual start dates.

What will change in September?

- Children will not be isolated in bubbles. They will play with their peers and eat together at lunch.
- If a child or member of staff tests positive for COVID-19, they will need to isolate as per current guidance. However, their contacts in school can attend school as normal.
- Our 'Early Doors' policy will continue as it did before lockdown. Doors will open from 8.30am and will close at 8.50am. Currently this runs until 9am. Please note this important change as your child will be marked late after 8.50am.

- We would like to keep the entrances and exits as they now are. Nursery, Reception, Y1,2 and 3 will enter via the left hand gate and Y4, 5 and 6 will enter via the right hand gate. We would like parents to continue to drop off at the gate, with the exception of Nursery and Reception. (Year 1 children can be accompanied into school for the first half term but we know that once they get used to their routem they can walk into school independently.
- We hope to run a full lunchtime menu once more. This will run on a three weekly cycle and will include our much-missed deli bar.
- Packed lunches can eat outside in fair weather, in the canteen or in the hall for KS2. We hope to open up our hall again during lunchtimes to enable KS2 children to read, draw, play table tennis or a board game. This has also been much-missed this year.
- Lunchtime timetables will allow children from different years to play together.
- Classrooms will be organised with table groups instead of rows.
- Children may work in mixed groups for different activities. For example, Read Write Inc phonics will be taught in mixed groups.
- Staff will not be required to wear masks.
- Children will be asked to come to school in their PE kit on the day.
- After school activity clubs will begin once we are back in and settled.
- Essential visitors will be welcomed into school and trips can be planned.
- If all goes well, parents and carers can attend meetings/workshops in school.

What will stay the same?

- We would prefer the traffic flow through our main office to be kept to a minimum. The cashless, paperless systems we now have in place are really supporting our workflow. Communication via email, phone or via the app is quick and we can respond easily at a convenient time.
- We will not be holding whole school/large group assemblies or events until after a review at October half term.
- Entrance and exit points are working well and easing congestion, especially on the middle yard. Y4, 5 and 6 will continue to use the side gate by the canteen.
- Handwashing and good ventilation will remain a priority.
- If your child is showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19, we will contact you and ask that you administer a test.

We know that you will all appreciate how difficult it is to plan ahead but hopefully this guidance will answer some of your questions about the start of the new academic year.

Thank you for your continued patience and support.

Kind regards,

Mr George & Mrs Seddon