



26th FEB 2021: COVID 19 UPDATE and return to school on 8th MARCH 2021 current plans

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am really delighted to be able to welcome ALL the children back to school on Monday 8th March. We have continued to work hard following guidance and advice from the Government, Local Authority (LA), Unions and the Department for Education (DfE) to as we continue to make final preparations for both our schools for 8th March.

The government have consistently stated that all children must return to school and attendance codes will be resumed. We will be operating very similarly to our Autumn 2020 systems and so have highlighted key reminders.

- **ATTENDANCE:** as we are fully open, attendance to our schools is not optional. You must inform us as usual if your child is not attending school by 9.30am. If your child is unwell and displaying symptoms of COVID please do not send them to school but follow the latest [national guidance](#). Likewise, if your household has been told to self-isolate, then do not send your child to school.
- **COMMUNICATION:** Updates, newsletters and communications will all continue to be electronic. Please check your emails daily.
- **STAFFING & CLASSROOM organisation:** We are operating virtually the same as we were in September using the class bubble system for lessons, lunchtime and playtimes.
- **UNIFORM:** Children are required to wear full uniform. If you have difficulties obtaining uniform, please email the office to say what items you are having difficulty with and we will make a note on our files so staff know. We do have some spare sweatshirts at both schools. I have sent the uniform rules.
- **Arrival and collection times:** These have been sent to you alongside this update. These are very similar to the Autumn Term. For those families with more than one drop off point, and are worried that the first day back your children will need you to be with them to reduce anxiety, go to the youngest child's point star and wait, then proceed to the eldest child. By the end of the week the eldest children should independently be able to go to their drop off star by themselves. Please respect the 2m distancing requests. We are hoping that children will soon be confident to get to the classrooms by themselves.
- **MASKS:** These are essential everywhere on school premises. All staff will be wearing a mask or a visor. Children ARE NOT required to wear masks.
- **COVID TESTS:** Primary school children are not required to take the lateral flow device tests (LFD). All school adults are involved in the twice weekly adult testing - this includes Premier Sport and catering staff.
- **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS:** There will an opportunity for some of our children to extend their school day for a sport club session, as before. These clubs will only be for a class bubbles and other children/parents whilst they are waiting will be required to wait off the school premises. These will start on 8th March and will run from 3.30pm-4.30pm. Please let us know if you wish for your child to join. Please see clubs timetable below.

	WPS	BPS
Monday	Class 1	
Tuesday	Class 2	
Wednesday	Class 3	
Thursday	Class 2	Squirrels
Friday	Class 3	Oaks

The latest key risk assessment document will be on our web pages soon should you wish to look at them in more detail. The following few pages are mainly a REPEAT of guidance I issued last time, in case you do not remember as it seems so long ago! I have provided a link to the latest [parent advice](#) from the national government.

In the meantime, please keep safe and we will see you all soon 😊.

Kindest regards
Deborah Eveleigh

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak> (This was last updated on 24/2/21)



KEY INFORMATION FOR BOTH SCHOOLS –



START and END of school day procedures

Please park respectfully if you are driving. If you are cycling/walking please stick to the time slots and park your bicycle/scooter in our racks. Please can we ask that you social distance immediately on leaving the vehicle/leaving the house. You will need to wear your mask on school premises. Messages to school staff need to be via email/telephone or by posting us a note in our popular red, letter boxes! Lunch payments will still need to be via cheque payable to Devon County Council. The menu will return to normal. 😊 Ring/email your school office if your child needs medication or is unwell.

Time slots to arrive /pick up - please see your personal email time.

ONE PARENT/CARER please to bring your child to the playground ensuring social distancing and arrive at your allocated time. Please note adults are to remain outside the school buildings - the office will not be available - use the post box or email.

- Please follow the **YELLOW stars & arrows**. It is a no-stopping route to your child's designated waiting area.
- At your designated waiting area please stay with your child until your child is asked to go in by a staff member and distance yourselves from other families. **BLUE STARS** are for waiting on
- Adults You are welcome to use the hand sanitiser station.
- When you leave please do so promptly and don't block the pathways outside school.

Burlescombe Families: Keep LEFT at all times and follow the yellow stars and arrows to top end of playground.

Waiting areas- on the blue stars as BEFORE:

Acorns Class: Wait on the blue stars by snakes and ladders grid away from other families at the top right-hand end of the playground. Please mind the SCAFFOLDING- you may need to stay on Squirrel's stars

Squirrels: Please wait in the on the blue stars by the square grids at top end markings away from other families.

Oaks: Wait on the blue stars close to the Small groups room stage at the top of the playground

Webber's families: WPS- as BEFORE, use the one-way system SIDE gate for entry and steps to exits unless you are unable to manage steps, follow the yellow stars and one-way arrows:

Waiting Areas at Webber's School on the blue stars:

Reception- wait on the blue stars outside the office window

Class 1- wait on the blue stars in the boat playground, outside the **ARCH** door

Class 2- wait on the blue stars in the netball court top & middle sections in big lower playground

Class 3- wait on the blue stars in the very bottom two sections of the netball court nearest the fence on the big lower playground.



KEY INFORMATION FOR BOTH SCHOOLS –

Children are still not allowed to bring in their own pencil cases, toys or any unnecessary items- please help us to keep this to a minimum to help us in our COVID-19 safety. We appreciate for little ones this may be tricky, but it is important.

All children will need the following items DAILY and these things MUST be labelled please:

- To wear full school uniform and correct school shoes and school ties (EYFS are exempt). Windows will be open to allow extra ventilation, so may I suggest a white plain vest under their shirt or they may want two jumpers if they get chilly. **See uniform letter.**
- To bring in FULL PE kit- this MUST be in a PE bag and contain a COMPLETE change of clothes i.e. Socks, training shoes, pants, shorts, T shirt, school jumper, track suit bottoms and due to PE always being outside they will need to have a LIGHT WEIGHT waterproof that they have in school for PE please.
- To bring in their fresh water in a non-leaky plastic bottle (no squash)
- To wear a coat with a hood for playtimes.
- Their book bag and reading diary and reading book and any home learning you wish to share with your child's teacher- after quarantine we will chat to your child.
- If KS2, a piece of fresh fruit for playtime.
- Please remember sensible school shoes and hair accessories, thank you.

Please DO NOT bring in:

Any toys, pencil cases, hand sanitiser
or face masks



Anticipated Questions: position as of 26/02/2021

What happens if there is a suspected case of COVID in my child's class 'Bubble' /school?

Following LA guidance:

*Any child/adult suspected of having COVID will be sent home and asked to be tested and let school know the results urgently. The rest of the bubble will remain in school until the results are known. If the test is positive, the affected person's family will need to self-isolate for the current number of isolation days. The bubble members (not necessarily the whole school) will all be sent home and asked to self-isolate too. The rest of the bubble member's family will not need to self-isolate unless they show symptoms. The school will alert PHE & SW HPT (Public Health England & the South West Health Protection Team). All **staff and parents** will be expected to provide track and trace with contact information if tested positive as we will be co-operating with the national TRACK and TRACE system. We will not be routinely testing temperatures.*



Where will my child's classroom be?



All classes have returned to their normal rooms as in September, where they will also have lunch.

What will my child's classroom look like?



Your child's room will look as in September. The furniture is spaced between tables and children will not face each other.

What happens when the children are collected by staff first thing?

Your child will be reminded of the Hand washing routines, the 'Bob the Box' signs (social distance), where to put their things and then sent to wash their hands. Along the route, they will be reassured and chatted to if they appear anxious. This is as in September



Who will teach my child?



The class teacher from December will be teaching your child's class with support from the teaching assistants and the same Premier Sports teachers, Mr Hodge and Mr Bradley.

What will the learning activities look like?

There are a few changes with this: The school day timetables have been reviewed and changed a little to support our focussed curriculum delivery: the children will still enjoy the range of subjects but will have shorter more focussed sessions. Our Modern foreign language teaching will continue to be basic oral work interspersed in the school day.

Collective worship will be in the afternoon and will be in in class with remote whole school on Fridays at 3pm so please use the old links to join us. We will also continue with TVP MINDFULNESS which you can still join in with us if you wish- we are aiming for a 2:45 start on this but the links will still work so you are welcome to join us for some really useful down time. With the staggered start/finishing times, we will have the additional CORE subject time as catch up. Music will be based on instrumentation and listening and responding – PE will be outside and following COVID-19 guidance. It will be in all weathers so please ensure your child has a coat that stays in school that is very light weight and waterproof. Otherwise, the full range of subjects will be covered. Children will be encouraged to share ideas and chat to friends at a sensible distance.





What about book bags, water bottles, suntan lotion, reading books and their home learning books?



Please bring in any home learning books and we will quarantine them and talk to your child about their work in the forthcoming few days. Please bring their reading diaries that will live for the day in their tray space, alongside their reading books, water bottles, and suntan lotion. For reading books that need changing, they will be put by the children in a lidded, quarantine box at the entrance of the classroom and kept aside for three or four days, then wiped and put back into circulation.



What will happen at break and lunch time?

Class 'Bubbles' of children will continue to have their own allocated areas of the school for their playtimes and lunchtimes. The 'Bubbles' will not mix. Children will be encouraged to keep a sensible distance and some games discouraged – e.g. no football. We are again planning school lunches to be in disposable, plastic trays and be brought to the classrooms or designated area, again to restrict movement around school. Children with packed lunches will keep their lunch boxes on their desk. We would prefer small, plastic lunches that can be stored in designated areas. The 'Bubble' will have its own designated playtime toy box. We may need to sub divide their play areas further, if needed. There will be an understanding that we will be saying to children not to touch each other and keep a safer distance through games and activities to remind them.



What about toileting and hand washing?

Children will be asked to wash their hands many times a day, beside their normal toilet routine:



- Arrival and just before leaving school
- Going out to break and before and after lunchtime break
- Every time they go to the toilet
- Before and after PE lessons



The breaks are staggered to enable 'Bubbles' not to mix. The Years 3/4/5/6 children will not enter the main building at Webber's. Those few who may need additional support may, at designated times work in the Attic and use the Arch door stairs. At Burlescombe Yr 5/6 will not enter the main building. If your child's hands are irritated by soap, send a labelled container of simple soap, and it will be put for them only to access. We will have toilet rotas and systems for the children if they need to go at other times. Some KS 2 children may be asked to sanitise their hands to reduce the waiting queue, but this will be only as required, be supervised, and only using appropriate solution provided by the teacher.



What happens if my child is upset or hurts themselves?



Adults will help a child with first aid- they may wear a mask if there are serious injuries and need close contact. Teachers will be keeping some distance whilst teaching. If a child gets upset, they will talk quietly and in a low tone to support them, there will be an area that they can talk more privately- this is part of our normal practise. If a child is extremely unhappy about coming into school, then a decision will be made at that time the best course of action to support their return. School attendance is not optional.



How will school support social distancing?



The government have acknowledged that 'policing' children to be 2m apart would be almost impossible. We have a range of games, rhymes, 'Bob the box' and STARS to help children and adults remember to stay further apart than usual. There is also a supplement to our **behaviour policy**, (please see website), for those who may continually/deliberately try to undermine the health and well-being behaviour expectations in school.



How will you keep the areas clean?



We have a thorough cleaning programme in place. There will also be other systems in place such as a reduction of adult/child circulation in the school corridors by having designated entrances/exits and restricting use, designated toilets and additional midday cleaning routines.



What happens in an emergency?

This obviously depends on the emergency, here are a few examples to reassure you:

Fire – children will be shown, reminded and practise drills- the 'Bob the Box' will help to get line spacing



Suspected COVID-19 - child will be taken by an adult helper to a pre-prepared isolation area. The adult will put on protective equipment and reassure the child as appropriate e.g. - pretend to be a nurse to make them feel at ease. Parents will be called and we would ask them to get the child tested. All those in the 'Bubble' will be sent home for self-isolation for 14 days, if the test proves positive.

Water/toilet/electricity issues- this would be dependent on the area with issues - serious breaches we will close the school, as current practise.

Accident/injury- these are the same procedures as current. The staff member dealing with the injury may need a face mask - aprons/gloves are current practise.

Intruder/lock down- children will be told to go under tables and follow instructions- this remain the same.



What happens at the end of the school day?

We will be on the lookout for you to release your child directly to you at your allocated time.



Homework will resume and be electronic. Newsletters will also be weekly and electronic.



How will my child catch up on things that they may have missed during lockdown?

You will have been supporting your child's learning during this lockdown period with work prepared by our staff team. Upon their return, our priority will be the reintroduction to school life and their well-being as well as develop their curriculum learning. The extended day will support personal study time e.g. TT rock stars and the mindfulness will help to develop their emotional resilience.



Have you changed any school policies?



None since the previous changes - Marking to prevent staff having to take books home, our Behaviour Policy to support COVID 19 safety measures, Fire Risks, First Aid, Child Protection, HR Policies, an Appendix for School Exclusions and extensive Risk Assessments. Governors have to see these assessments and be assured that we have followed a thorough process. These policy changes were changed when we first re-opened and have just been reviewed and amended to ensure we can meet all requirements for full opening and have taken into account our consultations and the latest guidance.



 Can I change my mind about my child coming into school?



No, the government are quite clear that attendance at school is as per usual. They have clearly indicated this, the educational welfare officer will be checking our records as usual.

 Does my child need to wear uniform?



Yes, they will need to follow school uniform rules. This has also been raised as an expectation by the Government. Please ensure it is named and that they ALWAYS have a coat. Please check the website if you are not sure of the required uniform. In addition, please make sure they **have a light-weight waterproof coat at all times for PE**. Thank you.

 Will my child change for PE?

This will depend upon the length of the session. In general, this will be a yes but not always. The EYFS may not always change as this often takes most of the lesson especially at the start of term 😊. Children will be asked to ensure their clothes remain on their own chairs or put into their PE bags. Children may also be sent home in their kit to maximize teaching time. If this happens, your child will need to bring it in the next day. Please ensure they have a FULL change of clothes **EVERY DAY** as they will be out in all weathers! They will need a light-weight waterproof coat at all times for P.E - we will be outside. Thank you.

 What shall I do if I am worried about something?



*Please, **DO** call the school office where your child is currently attending, use the school post-box, or email us. You will not be allowed in the school building, but we still want to work together to support your child. If you need to give your child's teacher a message, the admin team will pass it on, and your child's teacher will ring or email you. Likewise, if you do need to speak to the Heads of Teaching and Learning, Mr Roffey and Mrs Whitlock, who are in school daily or indeed myself, please contact us.*

And finally, please, remember do not send your child in if you think they are unwell - call us.

Help us to help keep you and your loved ones safe.