



Risk Assessment Statement / Strategy

COVID-19 - implementing protective measures at Farringtons School

Background

Farringtons School will re-open from 1 June 2020, initially to Reception, Year one and Year six.

By returning pupils gradually, we will reduce the number of children in classrooms compared to usual and we will put protective measures in place to reduce risks, as laid out in this document.

Effective infection protection and control

There are important actions that children, their parents and staff can take to help prevent the spread of the virus.

Preventing the spread of coronavirus involves dealing with direct transmission (for instance, when in close contact with those sneezing and coughing) and indirect transmission (via touching contaminated surfaces).

Farringtons are implementing a range of approaches and actions. These include:

- minimising contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, **do not attend** Farringtons School
- cleaning hands more often than usual – Parents to ensure children wash their hands before leaving home and wash hands upon returning home. We will ensure children regularly wash their hands and use sanitiser throughout the day. Posters are up around School promoting this.
- ensuring good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach – posters are up around school reminding staff and pupils of this.
- cleaning frequently touched surfaces using antiviral products throughout the day and ensuring infection control cleans are carried out at the end of each school day.
- minimising contact and mixing with other groups by changing the classroom layout and altering timetables to stagger arrival times, breaks, lunch and finish times.

PPE

The majority of staff will not require PPE in line with Government guidelines. PPE will only be used in a very small number of cases including:

- If a child needs to be changed due to intimate care needs



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- if a child becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus whilst at school. Staff will wear disposable gloves, a disposable apron and a face mask and shield whilst supervising the child, who will be put into an isolation room. If the child is coughing, spitting or vomiting, then the staff member will also wear eye protection.

Planning For Opening

We know that early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. Therefore we propose to:

- Update our risk assessment
- Ensure that all health and safety compliance checks have been undertaken before opening
- Deep clean the areas of the School that will be in use, a certificated medical clean has been carried out in the half term holiday.
- Ensure that we have additional cleaning requirements and agree additional hours with staff to accommodate this
- Split classes in half, with no more than 12 pupils per small group and one teacher and possibly teaching assistant as appropriate
- Re-organise classes and desks will be spaced as far apart as possible
- refresh the timetable:
 - decide which lessons or activities can be delivered
 - consider which lessons or classroom activities could take place outdoors
 - to reduce movement around the school
- stagger break times (including lunch), so that all children are not moving around the school at the same time
- stagger drop-off and collection times looking at minimising adult to adult contact
- For Reception we are looking at how to:
 - keep small groups of children (bubbles) together throughout the day and to avoid groups of children mixing
 - ensure play equipment can be used safely by one bubble only, ensuring it is appropriately cleaned and left for the appropriate period of time.
 - remove unnecessary items from classrooms (this includes shared toys)
 - remove soft furnishings, soft toys and toys that are hard to clean



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Communicating plans to Pupils, Parents and Staff

We will implement the following:

- Communicate to parents that they cannot gather at entrance gates or enter the school site, they must drop off and leave immediately
- Only one parent should drop off and pick up their child
- Specific staggered drop off and pick up times will be allocated to each group of children.
- Communicate plans with staff (for example, safety measures, timetable changes and staggered arrival and departure times)
- Clear communication for pupils, parents and staff, not to enter the School if they are displaying any symptoms of coronavirus

When School is open

We will keep "bubbles" of children together and we will reduce mixing groups within the school and:

- ensure that children are in the same small groups at all times each day, and different "bubbles" are not mixed during the day
- ensure that the same teacher and/or teaching assistant are assigned to each bubble and, as far as possible, these stay the same for the rest of the term
- ensure that wherever possible children use the same classroom throughout the day
- look at accessing rooms directly from outside doors to avoid mixing with other "bubbles" inside the building
- staggering breaks to ensure that any corridors or circulation routes used have a limited number of pupils using them at any time
- staggering lunch breaks – reception children will go home at lunchtime, Year 1 and Year 6 children will bring in their own packed lunches to be eaten within their own specified area outside or in the dining hall annexe or classroom.
- Lunches will need to be nut free, they will be stored under your child's desk, so you may want to put in a cold pack. Children need to be self sufficient and be able to open and eat whatever is in their washable lunch box.
- ensuring that toilets do not become crowded by limiting the number of children who can use the toilets at any given time – Separate toilets will be assigned to each "bubble"

We will use outside spaces:



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- for exercise and breaks where possible and safe to do so
- for outdoor education, where possible, as this can limit transmission and more easily allow for distance between children and staff

We will reduce the use of shared resources:

- We will provide each child with their own tray to limit sharing equipment such as pens, paintbrushes and books.
- Classrooms to be thoroughly cleaned overnight, with an extra infection clean.

Cleaning and hygiene

We will ensure that:

- sufficient handwashing facilities are available, and provide hand sanitiser in all classrooms
- we regularly clean surfaces that children are touching, such as desks, chairs, doors, sinks, toilets
- bins for tissues are emptied throughout the day
- where possible, all spaces should be well ventilated using natural ventilation (opening windows)
- doors are propped open, where safe to do so (bearing in mind fire safety and safeguarding) to limit use of door handles and aid ventilation

We will ensure that all adults and children:

- frequently wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and dry thoroughly
- clean their hands on arrival at School, before and after eating, and after sneezing or coughing
- will be encouraged not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose
- use a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste ('catch it, bin it, kill it')

Children will need to wear clean clothes each day for school, and will not need to wear uniform.



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What happens if someone becomes unwell at School?

- Any child or adult that becomes unwell will be sent home from School immediately
- If a child is awaiting collection, they will be moved to a room where they can be isolated, with appropriate adult supervision. A window will be opened for ventilation. **Parents must pick up their child immediately.**
- If the child needs to use the toilet, they will use a separate toilet to everyone else.
- PPE will be worn by staff caring for the unwell child while they await collection
- In an emergency, we will call 999
- If a member of staff has helped someone who was unwell, they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves.
- If a child or adult is sent home with symptoms they should access a test. To access testing parents will be able to use the 111 online coronavirus service or the government website <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>
- Whilst awaiting results they should self-isolate, along with other members in their household. The rest of their "bubble" will also be sent home to self-isolate.
- If the child or member of staff tests negative, they can return to school and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.

What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in a setting?

- If the child or member of staff tests positive, the rest of their "bubble" must self-isolate for 14 days.
- Other members of the household also need to self-isolate for 14 days
- As part of the national test and trace programme, if other cases are detected within the school, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise the school on the most appropriate action to take.