

1st September 2020



Dear parents and carers,

COVID-19 - RETURN TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS for all pupils – Thursday 3rd September 2020

I hope you and your family are safe and well. It has been a strange summer, however, I hope you were able to enjoy some of the glorious weather and had the opportunity for some quality family time together.

As we prepare for the new academic year we continue to work closely with our Trust (Thinking Schools Academy Trust) and to follow the Government advice to ensure we give the safest welcome for our pupils.

The Government's guidance for opening to all Year groups from September is the cornerstone to our plans and we have been working around the clock to reflect this and ensure a safe welcome back for all children in the new academic year.

We are now in a position to be able to share a summary of the principles for opening to all children in September.



In addition to this letter, the information [here](#) will help you understand how the return-to-school based learning will happen and answer questions you may have.

We will be continuing to work to our mission of Child First = Child Safe = Adult Safe. This has guided our planning since lockdown and we are pleased with how well it translated to everyone in our school community.

HOW WE ACHIEVE 'CHILD SAFE'

At the heart of our strategy to keep everyone safe will be the Year Group Bubble. Each pupil will be part of a consistent bubble made up of their year group with NO mixing between these bubbles in the school. I have outlined below the top five considerations and principles that will be in operation in time for all of our pupils returning.

www.penhaleinfantschool.org.uk

www.newbridgejuniorschool.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs A Webb MA (Ed) NPQH
Chief Executive Officer: Mr S Gardner BA (Hons) MSc NPQH NLE

Penhale Infant School
Lincoln Road, Portsmouth, PO1 5BG
0333 360 2185
office@penhaleinfantschool.org.uk

Newbridge Junior School
New Road, Portsmouth, PO2 7RW
0333 360 2190
office@newbridgejuniorschool.org.uk



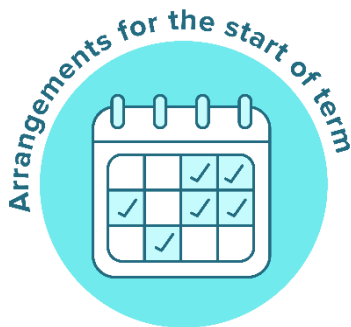
1. MANAGING SICKNESS AND REPORTING

Please remember that you must not send your child to school if they are unwell or displaying any symptoms of Covid-19.

- New continuous cough.
- High temperature.
- Loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

We are going beyond the Government advice regarding Track & Trace to ensure the highest safety for our community. Therefore, any member of our school community that is displaying symptoms must self-isolate and be tested.

In the event of a positive test result, we will inform Public Health England (PHE) and follow their advice.



2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE START OF TERM

We will provide a full time education provision for **all** children in Years 1-6, five days a week starting on **Thursday 3rd September**. The Government expect all children to return in September and we have planned carefully to ensure that we are able to welcome them all back safely.

No adults (other than staff) will be allowed onto the school site in the mornings so we ask you to say goodbye to the children at the gate. There will be senior leaders, teachers and TAs available to support the children coming into school.

Please queue outside your allocated gate, staying close to the fence (to allow pedestrians to pass by) and ensure you are maintaining social distancing.

At the end of the day, there will be a one way system in place. Please only have one adult collecting children (to reduce risk), enter through the gate on George Street and exit through the gate on New Road. Please do not group together and chat, and adhere to social distancing rules.



3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SCHOOL DAY

To keep the pupils day as uninterrupted and smooth-running as possible we have implemented a new approach to the school days. Please make sure to arrive at the correct time.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE: To support social distancing, pupils must enter and leave the school grounds through the entry / exit points outlined below:

| Class | Teacher | Gate entrance (in the mornings) | Start time | Finish time (queue at George St gates) |
|-------|--------------|------------------------------------|------------|---|
| 3Y | Miss Younger | George St (pedestrian gate) | 8:40am | 2:50pm |
| 3C | Miss Coombs | George St (pedestrian gate) | 8:45am | 2:55pm |
| 3JP | Mrs Preen | George St (pedestrian gate) | 8:50am | 3:05pm |
| 3M | Miss Mundy | George St (pedestrian gate) | 8:55am | 3:10pm |

| Class | Teacher | Gate entrance (in the mornings) | Start time | Finish time (queue at George St gates) |
|-------|-------------|---|------------|---|
| 4D | Mr Denham | George St (double gates by Foster building) | 8:40am | 2:50pm |
| 4P | Miss Palmer | George St (double gates by Foster building) | 8:45am | 3:00pm |
| 4T | Mrs Teare | George St (double gates by Foster building) | 8:50am | 3:05pm |
| 4L | Mrs Lambert | George St (double gates by Foster building) | 8:55am | 3:15pm |
| 4S | Mr Settle | George St (double gates by Foster building) | 9:00am | 3:20pm |

| Class | Teacher | Gate entrance (in the mornings) | Start time | Finish time (queue at George St gates) |
|-------|--------------|------------------------------------|------------|---|
| 5MH | Mrs Hughes | New Road (pedestrian gate) | 8:40am | 2:55pm |
| 5D | Mr Down | New Road (pedestrian gate) | 8:45am | 3:00pm |
| 5S | Miss Suthers | New Road (pedestrian gate) | 8:50am | 3:10pm |
| 5H | Mrs Hale | New Road (pedestrian gate) | 8:55am | 3:15pm |
| 5P | Mrs Philpott | New Road (pedestrian gate) | 9:00am | 3:20pm |

At the start of the school day teachers will collect pupils from the playground and take them to their classrooms. All children will use the hand sanitiser on their way into school.

www.penhaleinfantschool.org.uk

www.newbridgejuniorschool.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs A Webb MA (Ed) NPQH
Chief Executive Officer: Mr S Gardner BA (Hons) MSc NPQH NLE

Penhale Infant School
 Lincoln Road, Portsmouth, PO1 5BG
 0333 360 2185
office@penhaleinfantschool.org.uk

Newbridge Junior School
 New Road, Portsmouth, PO2 7RW
 0333 360 2190
office@newbridgejuniorschool.org.uk



LARGE GATHERINGS: There will be no whole school assemblies taking place throughout the Autumn Term to ensure safety (these will take place virtually).

BREAK/LUNCHTIMES: Break and lunchtimes will be staggered so that the Year Group Bubbles do not mix. Please provide your child with a healthy break snack or 30p to buy a cereal bar from our tuckshop. We will be offering a hot meal option as usual, alternatively please provide your child with a healthy packed lunch.

FACE COVERINGS: In line with government advice children under 12 do not need to wear a face covering.



4. SCHOOL RULES

We expect our pupils to return in **full school uniform**. Wearing the correct uniform is important to our identity, and school community and we recognise the importance of establishing our school as a family of learners together and uniform is integral to this.

All normal school rules will apply as well as additional expectations around behaviour in corridors and the maintenance of social distancing – these are shown on additional signage throughout the school. If pupils choose to ignore these expectations then the school will apply the normal range of sanctions.

We do not want children to bring anything in from home other than their PE kit, drinks bottle, lunchbox and breaktime snack (if needed).



5. SAFETY AND CLEANING

Ensuring that our school is kept clean is a key part of our plan. This means regular cleaning of all shared spaces.

Hand washing will be the principle means of securing hand hygiene and will be easily accessible throughout school.

As a result of these measures we believe we will be able to provide a safe learning environment for your children and we look forward to welcoming them all back in September.



FINAL NOTE...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our children, parents/carers, staff and governors for their support over the last term and indeed, since the pandemic impacted on our usual ways of teaching and learning.

Together we have overcome some great challenges and we are proud of what we have achieved. Should there be any further changes to the Government guidance before we return, or during the new academic year we will respond as fast and as best we can.

We understand that some of you and your children may be anxious about returning to school on **Thursday 3rd September**, after some months out of school. Please be reassured that we are taking exceptional measures to make our schools as safe as can be. We will be providing additional emotional and wellbeing support for all pupils and will also be providing additional opportunities to support learning where this is required. Although many of our pupils have worked hard using our remote learning resources provided by our dedicated teachers, we are fully aware that some learning has been lost. We are all determined that your sons and daughters will not be 'a lost generation' and we're adapting our curriculum to make sure that they get the learning and knowledge that they need to achieve success in the future.

However in the meantime, I would like to thank you again and I hope you have found this update useful. Further information will be published on the school site as and when it occurs.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Webb
Headteacher of Newbridge Junior School and Penhale Infant School & Nursery