



**Thurston CE Primary Academy**  
**Frequently asked questions for the start of the spring term 2021**

**Updated 06.01.2021**

**When is the school reopening?**

We are waiting for the latest Government guidelines but we are closed to all pupils until Feb half term at the earliest.

**Can I bring my child to school?**

If you have completed the information sheet confirming that you are a Key Worker and had confirmation of an allocated place then your child can attend on the agreed days.

**What happens if I need to change my child's allocated day?**

There is an alarming increase of Key Worker children requiring places within school so please give us as much notice as possible in order to make sure that we have space. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee places but we will be as flexible as we can.

**If I am Key Worker what time do I have to bring my child to school?**

Parents are being asked to bring their child/children to the appropriate designated areas ready for 8:45am

**Where do I leave my child in the morning?**

Members of Wren class, Kingfisher and Robin class are to meet the class teacher at the wooden gate leading into the Early Years outdoor area. Members of Owl class and Eagle class to meet the class teacher on the top playground and members of Osprey and Red Kite class to enter via the Side gate at the back of the carpark NOT the usual Cavendish entrance.

**Where do I collect my child from at the end of school?**

Pupils will be collected from the same area where they were dropped off in the morning at 3:30pm promptly.

**Where should I stand whilst waiting to collect my child?**

Parents will be asked to line up in a designated area parallel to their child's class designated area keeping socially distanced from other parents.

**Which teacher will my child be with?**

Teachers have been assigned a Bubble / Team and will be in school on designated days. The teacher may not be your child's class teacher but they will be familiar with the adults in their care.

**Does my child need to wear school uniform?**

No, just appropriate comfortable clothing which allows them to take part in physical activities.

**Will my child be sharing toilet facilities?**

Specific Teams / Bubbles have been allocated toilet facilities to prevent the mixing of Teams / Bubbles throughout the day. Toilet facilities will be cleaned regularly throughout the day following a strict cleaning regime. A maximum of two children from the Team / Bubble will be able to use the toilet facilities at one time.

**Do children have break time?**

Pupils will have the same amount of break time as they would have before the pandemic. To prevent the mixing of Teams / Bubbles break times will be staggered and areas of the playground will be allocated to a specific Team / Bubble.

**Will hot dinners be on offer?**

Hot dinners will be available as normal but will follow the catering guidelines. Certain changes will take place but will not affect the meals on offer to the children.

**Where will my child eat their food?**



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Children will eat their packed lunch or hot meal in a classroom within their Team / Bubble supervised by a member of staff.

**Can my child have a packed lunch box?**

Pupils can use a packed lunch box if they wish, with a cool pack. Disposable lunch bags can also be used if preferred.

**Will my child be able to refill their water bottle?**

No. All water fountains have been turned off. Members of staff will fill individual water bottles up when required.

**Are parents expected to wear a mask on school premises?**

All visitors will be expected to wear face coverings when on the school premises unless due to medical reasons you are exempt.

**Are parents expected to wear a face mask whilst talking to members of staff?**

Yes.

**Will staff be wearing masks?**

Following Government guidelines, staff are not expected to wear face coverings within the classroom but may choose to do so for personal choice. Members of staff will follow the Covid Risk Assessment and wear face coverings when meeting parents and moving around the school building out of their designated area.

**Can my child bring their own bag to school?**

No. We are limiting unnecessary items at this point in time. Pupils will only need their drinks bottle, coat and lunch if a school dinner is not being ordered. All stationary and resources that pupils will need throughout the day will be supplied by school; **please do not send a pencil case with your child.**

**Will the classroom be any different?**

The layout of classrooms is no different than the autumn term, Government guidelines are being adhered to.

**Will pupils gather in the hall for Collective Worship?**

Pupils will have a form of Collective Worship throughout the week within their Bubble / Team.

**Blue Badge parking**

The Blue Badge parking space will continue to be in the same place as the autumn term.

**Will hot snacks be on offer?**

There will be no hot snacks available for the Key Worker pupils. Please provide a healthy snack if you would like your child to have something to eat at break time.

**Will my child be able to bring a mobile phone?**

We only expect pupils in Year 5 and 6 to bring a mobile phone to school if they are walking to or from school without parental supervision. Mobile phones are expected to be switched off when on school premises.

**Can both parents drop off / collect their child?**

We are asking that only one parent is present on the school premises at a time to minimise the number of people present at the beginning and end of the school day.

**Will I need to tell school if my child is self-isolating?**



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School needs to be aware of any absence either through a telephone call or an email for those pupils attending school as a Key Worker.

### **What happens if we are late in the morning at drop off?**

If you are running late then please bring your child to the front office.

## **Remote Learning**

### **When can remote learning be accessible?**

Class teachers will aim to have their weekly remote learning accessible by 11:00am every Monday. If this isn't the case then please be patient as there may be unforeseen technical issues. If you have any concerns / questions regarding remote learning please contact the class teacher through the class email.

### **What happens if I have no way of accessing the remote learning?**

If you have no way of accessing the remote learning then please contact the school office. Our Key Worker numbers are high so the capacity to borrow Chrome Books is limited. We can arrange for you to collect paper copies of the work set if required.

### **Where can I find remote learning for my child?**

Remote learning for Wren and Kingfisher class is being uploaded onto Tapestry, Robin class will be accessible through the class page on the school website and the remainder of the school will be through Google classroom.

### **How often do I need to upload my child's work?**

Class teachers may specify which pieces of work they specifically would like to see over the course of the week. As you can imagine, if every piece of work is uploaded each day this will be overwhelming for class teachers to keep on top of. A good idea is to take a picture of many pieces of completed work as evidence of completion.

### **Can the White Rose Maths sheets be completed on Google Classroom?**

If you are unable to print the maths activity worksheets, then it is possible to download them in Google docs. This will affect the layout of the worksheet as there will be no images. To do this, click on the arrow to download and select 'download with docs' option. This will give you an editable answer sheet with no images.

### **How do I stop my child seeing the answers?**

For the White Rose Maths resources, please open as a powerpoint and this will hide the answers until clicked on. If you think your child has copied the answers then ask them to explain their thinking in order to arrive to the answer they have; it will be evident whether they understand their thought process or not.

### **Will my child's work be marked?**

It will not be possible to mark every piece of learning completed but staff will mark and give feedback regularly following the DFE remote learning expectations.

### **What do I do if my child's work is too easy / hard?**

If you feel the work being set is too hard or too easy over a period of time then please politely inform your child's class teacher and they will do their best to adapt the remote learning accordingly.

### **Will my child be able to speak to their class teacher?**



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Teachers will set up regular Google meetings with your child to discuss their learning. This will be communicated through your child's school email or the class email unless your child is in Wren class; welfare calls will be made.

**Can I contact my child's class teacher?**

You can contact the class teacher through the class email or your child's school email account. Please be patient for a response as the class teacher may be teaching the Key Worker group and not be able to respond immediately. Teachers will be working their usual hours and have been encouraged by the Headteacher not to respond to emails after school hours for their own personal well-being.

**Can I change My Child's school reading book?**

Readings books can be changed, please make arrangements with the class teacher. Please refrain from emailing or calling the Office on this matter. There will be a box placed in the Foyer for returned books so that a 72 hour quarantine period can take place before being put back into circulation.