



Dear Parents

For those who would like their child to attend before the end of term, this is how we are providing an environment which is as safe as possible.

Bubbles

- A bubble will consist of no more than 15 children with one or two staff members. This may not be your child's usual class teacher but will be someone who they will know well.
- Each bubble will remain together throughout the day and not mix with other bubbles.
- Breaks, toilet rotas, drop-offs and pick-ups will be staggered to prevent larger groups of people in any one space.
- Within the bubble, children and adults will physically distance, although this is more difficult with younger children.
- Bubbles will remain in designated areas of the school building and playground.

Cleaning and hygiene

- Hand washing will be done at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Tables, door handles and toilets will be cleaned at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Children will have their own equipment and will not share it with others.
- To reduce transmission of the virus on fabrics, it is advised that fresh clothes are worn each day in school. For this reason, children can wear their own clothes rather than school uniform. We encourage these clothes to be sporty and allow for physical activity.
- Water fountains will be out of use so a water bottle will be required for your child.
- Only packed lunches will be allowed in school.
- Anyone with symptoms will be sent home to isolate for 7 days (family household members are expected to self-isolate for 14 days) or until a test confirms it is not Covid 19. School will need to see test results to permit re-admittance before 7 days have passed.
- If the test is positive, you must inform school immediately so that the staff and children within that bubble can self-isolate for 14 days.

Physical distancing

- Visitors will not be allowed on site unless it is for urgent repairs or health and safety reasons.
- Parents will need to communicate via email or telephone.
- Parents/teachers will talk to your child about the importance of physical distancing and how they should behave around adults and other children.
- Parents should ensure their child is as independent as possible. Especially help younger ones by teaching them how to do up their coat, tie their shoe laces etc.
- Parents will be asked to collect from specific points and times and should not gather at

entrances/exits. You must adhere to these times and places for safety reasons. Only one adult should come with their child to school and if possible, with older children, they arrive and leave by themselves.

- There will be staggered start and finish times to enable physical distancing.
- We advise that wherever possible you use personal vehicles or walk to school rather than using public transport.

Home learning

- For those that do not attend school, home learning will still be available. However, depending on numbers attending school, this offer may be reduced and monitored less frequently by staff members.

Children of key workers

- Your child will join a bubble with their year group unless you specifically request to keep them with a sibling in the key worker group.
- They can continue to attend the key worker group on the days they aren't in their year group bubble.

Additional information

- For those that decide to send in their child, further information and finer details will be given once we have finalised numbers and planned the bubbles.

Some reassurances

- Scientists have high confidence that children of all ages have less severe symptoms than adults if they contract coronavirus. They have moderately high confidence that younger children are less likely to become unwell if infected with coronavirus.
- During the time our key worker children have been attending school, since the lockdown, we have had no transmission of the virus between staff and children that we are aware of. This is also true of many other primary schools in Warrington. This is due to having similar safety procedures in place as are outlined here.
- In countries that have reopened schools or have remained open, there haven't been any big outbreaks of the virus.
- There is a risk that children could pass the virus on to staff (who are at a higher risk of serious illness than children) so it is in their interest to ensure that rigorous cleaning and distancing procedures are in place.
- A thorough risk assessment has been completed based on one provided by the Health and Safety team in the local authority.

FAQs

If you have any other questions not answered here, please email office@gorsecoverts.ch.co.uk

1. Will my child see their friends?

Yes, if their parents choose to send them to school. If they are in the same bubble as your child, they will see them a lot. If they are in a different bubble, they will see them but will not be able to mix with them.

2. Can you guarantee it is safe?

I can not guarantee your child won't catch the virus but I can promise that we will ensure all the recommended safety guidelines are adhered to.

3. Can I change my mind later?

No, if you do not complete the google form to request place, it is unlikely your child will be able to attend because our plans will be based on the numbers of places requested.

4. I have another child in a different year group that is not currently being offered time in school, can they come into school?

Unfortunately not. We appreciate this may be inconvenient but we are currently unable to offer places to siblings at this present time unless they are in the identified year groups.

5. Will there be any assemblies, performances or other opportunities to visit school?

Unfortunately not. At this present time, we are not allowing visitors to school and would not be able to guarantee safe physical distancing.

6. What clothes should my child wear?

We are not asking children to wear school uniform at present. They should come in fresh clothes each day which should be appropriate for school, outdoor learning and physical exercise.

7. What can they bring in?

*They can bring in their own pencil cases, personal reading book (junior children only), school bag and coat. They may prefer to have their own soap or sanitizer. **All children** should bring in a water bottle and snack. Only necessary items should be brought into school. PE kits are not required.*

8. Do I have to provide a packed lunch?

All infant children will be provided with a packed lunch. Junior children can purchase a packed lunch from school using ParentPay or bring in their own.

9. What will they do at playtimes?

They will play games within their own bubble in a designated area of the playground. The adults will support them to interact in a safe but sociable way. They will be provided with playground equipment to play with. Your child will not be socially isolated.

10. What if my child is upset or struggling with something, will they be left on their own?

We will always provide comfort to a child who is upset or struggling.

11. Should my child wear a face covering?

Face coverings are not recommended for schools except in situations where a child may become unwell or need first aid. If they are coming to school on public transport, a face covering is advisable but would not need to be worn in school.

12. There is someone in my house that is shielding, should my child come into school?

Children who are classed as clinically extremely vulnerable, due to pre-existing medical conditions, or who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, are not expected to return to school for the time being.