



Increasing the number of pupils attending school

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How do I contact/communicate with the school?

The contact arrangements are as normal for the school. Telephone (0208 690 4713) or email (admin@holbeach.lewisham.sch.uk) the office and a member of staff will respond.

What class/bubble will my child be in?

The children will be in new groups, which the government refer to as 'bubbles', with no more than 15 children in each. We will use the information gathered from our telephone calls this week to finalise the details of each bubble.

Will my child have their normal class teacher?

The bubbles will each have two designated members of staff (a teacher and a teaching assistant from across the school) so children may not be with their normal class teacher.

Will the bubbles be able to mix?

No. The children will need remain with their bubble at all times. They will arrive and leave together, be in classroom together, they stay together at play time and they will eat lunch together. Children in different bubbles will not mix, in order to comply with government guidance.

How will I know which bubble my child is in?

We will contact parents, informing them of the teacher that will be with their child's bubble and with the times for drop off and collection. We will need to stagger these times to avoid having too many parents outside school at any one time (The government guidance refers to these as 'pinch points').

What is the guidance for travelling to school?

Whilst we know that a lot of our Year 6 children travel to and from school by themselves, we would encourage them to be accompanied at the moment to ensure their safety. If you have to use public transport in order to travel to school, then the government advice is to wear a face covering.

Will there be breakfast and afterschool club?

Government advice is to minimise contact between children in different bubbles. Therefore, **breakfast and afterschool provision club will not be available at the moment** as this would involve children mixing between groups. If this situation changes, we will notify you.

Where will I drop off my child?

Please bring your child into the playground via the large, black, wooden gate marked 'entry'. The 'exit' gate is at the other end of the playground, also clearly signposted. Whilst you wait for the gate to be opened, please remember to maintain a 2m distance from other families, modelling the social distancing we are expecting of the children.

Once in the playground, children need to walk over to their bubble who will be waiting in a specific place for them. Please note that where possible only one parent/carer should accompany the children and if at all possible, any siblings who are not coming to school should remain at home.

Will I be able to come on site?

As per the Government guidance, we must limit the number of visitors on site. This means that we cannot accept parents into the building unless it is for a pre-arranged appointment where a room will be available for us to meet in a socially distant way.

If you need to speak to a member of staff, please email or call the office and we will be able to answer your queries or arrange an appointment.

What are the lunch arrangements?

Children will need to continue social distancing whilst they eat lunch, which means that less children can be accommodated in the dining hall at any one time. As a result of this, lunch time will have to be spread out over a longer period. School meals will be available as usual and children can bring packed lunches if they wish.

What can my child bring to school with them?

We need to limit the amount of belongings that children are bringing with them from home. We ask that the children do not bring in a PE Kit or a book bag or any toys from home.

As the water fountains will not be available at this time, children must bring a water bottle with them, (clearly labelled with their name) which will be taken home with them each night to be washed and refilled. Children will not need to bring anything else, apart from a packed lunch if they bring one.

What about resources?

Each child will be supplied with a pack of stationery that is personal to them and will only be used by them each day. There will be no sharing of resources at this time, including large scale PE equipment (e.g. climbing frame).

What are the hygiene arrangements?

Children will be asked to wash their hands upon entering the classroom at the start of the day and at regular intervals throughout the day. Some classrooms have sinks, which will have soap and paper towels for the children to use. Classrooms without sinks will need to use the washbasins in the toilet areas for handwashing. Please continue to remind your children how to wash their hands effectively.

Classrooms will be cleaned thoroughly every morning and frequently used areas, such as door handles, light switches and children's work stations will be sanitised regularly during the day.

There will be an adequate supply of tissues and wipes available in each classroom for the children to use throughout the day, if needed. Children will be encouraged to use tissues as per the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' guidance.

Will there be any opportunities for exercise during the day?

We will be encouraging children to spend more time outside, in order to minimise the risk of any transmission and to promote exercise, which is vital for their health and wellbeing.

What will play time look like?

The children will remain in their bubbles in the playground during playtime. It will not be possible to play with children from other bubbles, as laid out in the government guidance.

Who will administer First Aid?

There will be designated first aiders on site all the time and they will have appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

What will I do if my child needs medication?

We will follow our normal procedure, as laid out in our Administering Medication Policy. However, all completed forms will need to be emailed to the school office, as we are unable to accept paper copies at this time. If we do not have important medication for your child on site we may ask you to take your child home until you provide us with the medication.

What if my child falls ill or has an accident during the day?

We will follow our normal procedures and inform you if your child is involved in an accident during the day. If the accident is a serious one (e.g. head bump) then we will make a telephone call home. However, if it is a minor incident, instead of providing your child with an accident form we will send a short text to let you know what has happened.

What if my child displays symptoms of Covid-19 while at school?

At the end of this document are a list of the potential symptoms of Covid-19. If your child displays any of these symptoms they will be taken to one of our designated first aid areas and isolated. We will call you and ask you to come and collect them as soon as possible. We will ask you to meet us at the gate and we will hand your child over to you.

We will then ask you to arrange for your child to be tested and to isolate all members of your household for 14 days (or until a negative test result has been evidenced. Children and families are eligible for testing which can be accessed through the 111 online coronavirus service.

If your child or anyone in your household has a positive test result, please inform school immediately.

What happens if another child or member of staff tests positive for Covid-19?

As soon as we are aware of a positive test, the rest of the bubble will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. That bubble will remain closed for 14 days. The other household members of children or staff in that bubble do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with subsequently develops symptoms.

It is our understanding that the government's 'test, track and trace' team will then contact the school and begin to trace other contacts.

What will happen if the bubble teacher becomes unwell?

We have a number of staff that are unable to be in school at the moment as they are shielding, or in vulnerable groups so we are working at a limited staffing level. This means that if the bubble teacher becomes unwell we may not have 'spare' staff who could take over temporarily.

In the event that a bubble teacher becomes unwell during the school day we may need to send all of the children in that bubble home. We will of course keep parents informed if this happens and when your child's bubble will be open again.

What will the curriculum look like?

Adjustments will be made to the curriculum to support all learners in Year 6. Maths and English will be taught in the morning and in the afternoon the children will undertake project work or transition activities. There will be an emphasis on well-being as many children will be anxious about having missed school and about moving on to the next phase of their educational journey.

Will you still be providing home learning / distance learning, should I decide not to send my child back to school?

Yes. The home learning will continue to be loaded on to the school website every week, with some of the work broken down further into daily tasks.

What will happen at the end of the school day?

In order to relieve pressure on pinch points, as mentioned earlier, Year 6 will finish School at a slightly different time from the other groups (timings will be confirmed via email).

If you are unable to collect your child from school and you want them to travel home alone, please let us know and they will be dismissed first. In order to ensure their safety, you must make sure that your child knows that they need to go straight home, and not to socialise with children from any other bubbles.

The Most Important Advice/Guidance regarding Coronavirus is:

1. **Do not leave your house (do not come to school) for at least 14 days if you or someone you live with have these symptoms (however mild).** The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:
 - a new continuous cough
 - a high temperature
 - a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days, contact [NHS 111 online](#). If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.
2. **Wash your hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds** using soap and hot water, particularly after coughing, sneezing and blowing your nose, or after being in public areas where other people are doing so. Use hand sanitiser if that's all you have access to.
3. **Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze** and throw the tissue in a bin immediately. If you do not have a tissue then use your elbow/sleeve (not your hands). Then wash your hands or use a hand sanitising gel.
4. **Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces** using your regular cleaning products to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.