



Coronavirus (COVID-19): Full Opening Handbook for Parents

Last updated: 6th November 2020

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Appendix: [Period of national restrictions from 5 November 2020](#)

Please note: We ask that parents refer to the appendix at the end of this handbook for details on the period of national restrictions from 5 November 2020, and how this impacts our existing infection control measures at school.

The purpose of this handbook

Firstly, we would like to thank you for your support and understanding during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. We are now in a position where we are able to open the school to all of our pupils, in line with government advice.

This handbook has been created to provide you with details of the measures that are being put in place to ensure the safety of our school community as we fully open. The handbook aims to answer your questions and bring you up-to-speed with the various changes that have been implemented. We hope that the information within this handbook will reassure you that Avalon has taken all the necessary precautions in preparing to welcome all pupils back to school.

Useful contacts

We advise that you save these contact details in your phone, so they can be easily accessed should you need them.

Name	Role	Contact number	Email
Mrs J Callaway	Headteacher & Designated Safeguarding Lead	0151 625 6993	jcallaway@avalon-school.co.uk
Mr M Ashton	Deputy Headteacher & SENCO	0151 625 6993	martinashton@avalon-school.co.uk
Mrs A Evans	School Business Manager & PA to the Headteacher	0151 625 6993	annevans@avalon-school.co.uk
Mrs A Prandle	Nursery Manager	0151 625 6993	nursery@avalon-school.co.uk
Admin Team & School Office		0151 625 6993	schooloffice@avalon-school.co.uk

We welcome any questions and will do our best to address any of your concerns. Our school office is open from 8:00am until 5:00pm and can be contacted via email address or telephone number. Please do not attend the school office in person unless absolutely necessary or by prior arrangement.

1. Opening the school to all pupils

In line with the government's direction, and following a robust risk assessment process, we will welcome back all pupils from Thursday 3rd September 2020.

The government is relaxing its shielding guidelines from 1 August. If your child is classed as clinically extremely vulnerable, and has previously been advised to shield, you can now allow them to return to school.

Please contact the school office as soon as possible if you have any queries regarding your child's attendance.

Risk assessment

The school has conducted a thorough risk assessment to mitigate the risks of opening fully during the coronavirus pandemic. Our risk assessment covers various aspects of the school premises, cleaning, staff availability, infection control and social distancing protocols, mental health and wellbeing, access to learning, and fire safety.

The risk assessment is a live document and will be updated as required. A copy of this risk assessment is available on request.

2. Protecting clinically vulnerable individuals



If your child is considered clinically vulnerable, clinically extremely vulnerable, was previously 'shielding', or lives with somebody who was shielding, they are now able to return to school.

If your child is considered clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable, you may wish to contact your child's GP to discuss whether additional safety measures need to be put in place to ensure it is safe for them to attend school.

If, after speaking with their GP, you decide that your child will need additional safety measures in place to attend school safely, please contact the headteacher via email to discuss these arrangements.

3. Attendance

Attendance for pupils coming into school will be recorded as normal. We understand that you may be concerned about your child returning to school at this time, but please be assured that the school will do its utmost to keep your child safe. Please feel free to contact the school to discuss attendance and the safety measures in place.

If, at any time, your child cannot attend school due to the necessity to self-isolate, whether this is because they are ill themselves or have been in close contact with someone who is, please let the school know as soon as possible.

If your child does not attend when they are expected to and the school has not been notified, you will be contacted to find out why, in line with the school's safeguarding procedures. We

are contacting parents to confirm that the emergency contact details we have on record are correct and to ask for any additional emergency contact numbers where they are available.

Update: The government has instituted quarantine periods for those returning from certain foreign countries. Staff and pupils who have returned to the UK from overseas within the last month will need to complete the necessary quarantine period, as outlined in the government's [guidance](#), before returning to school. The requirement to quarantine on return to England applies to all countries besides those listed as exempt in [this guidance](#) – this list is continually updated.

4. Social distancing

To reduce the risk of transmitting the coronavirus in our school, social distancing measures will be implemented. We expect pupils to follow these rules; however, we understand that some pupils may be unable to fully understand social distancing principles, e.g. because of their age or needs. Staff will work with all pupils to ensure their safety and positively reinforce good social distancing behaviour.

Update:

Staff and parents will wear face coverings or face visors during drop off and collection from school. If a parent or visitor needs to come on to the school site they will be asked to wear a face covering. The school will not require face coverings to be worn by those exempt from doing so. Staff and visitors will not be prevented from entering school on the grounds that they are not wearing a face covering.

The government does not recommend that pupils themselves in primary schools wear face coverings.

Group arrangements

To maximise the effectiveness of social distancing with all staff and pupils attending school, we have made the decision to put pupils in year group bubbles. Social distancing is maintained within bubbles as much as possible.

- Class sizes will be back to their usual size
- Individuals within a bubble will not be permitted to mix with members of another bubble.
- Each bubble will have its own classrooms, learning areas and designated outdoor areas for breaktimes and PE lessons.
- Members of staff will minimise their close contact with pupils and other staff; however, staff will be able to move between bubbles in order to deliver the full curriculum. Where a two-metre distance is not possible, staff should avoid close face-to-face contact and minimise the time spent within one metre of anyone, unless supporting pupils who have complex needs or who need close contact care – this will be provided as normal.
- Desks and chairs in classrooms will be front-facing and placed as far apart as possible.
- Frequently-used equipment, e.g. pens & pencils, will be provided or may be brought from home (and kept in school) so that all staff and pupils have their own – sharing frequently-used equipment will not be permitted.
- Classroom resources, e.g. books, can be shared within bubbles, but will be cleaned frequently, e.g. at the end of each day or between each use.
- Communal resources, e.g. sports equipment, can be shared between bubbles if they can be thoroughly cleaned between uses.
- Pick-up and drop-off times will be staggered and determined by your child's allocated bubble.
- Lunchtimes and breaktimes will be staggered as per your child's bubble.
- Pupils will be kept within their bubbles when moving around the school, except to use the toilet.

EYFS: We are no longer required to keep bubbles small and consistent; however, we will ensure reasonable endeavours are made to minimise mixing within the setting, e.g. by using different rooms for different age groups and keeping these groups apart as much as possible.

Whilst unlikely to be the case, if the demand for places at the setting is still higher than current capacity, due to the protective measures in place, it may be necessary to keep the cap on numbers of children attending. Where this is the case, we will prioritise providing places to vulnerable children and children of critical workers, then three- and four-year-olds, followed by younger age groups.

We acknowledge that we will face some limitations to the practicality of these arrangements in certain circumstances and will work with all pupils to help remind them of the importance of staying within their bubbles. If you are concerned about any of the arrangements listed above, please contact the school as soon as possible to discuss any alternative arrangements.

The following control measures will be implemented to ensure bubbles are kept separate from one another whilst at school:

- Large gatherings, such as assemblies, will not take place for more than one bubble at a time.
- Timetables will be organised to ensure bubbles are kept apart and movement around the school site is kept to a minimum.
- Separate classroom areas will be used for different bubbles.
- Break and lunch times will be staggered, with time left in between usage by different bubbles for surfaces in dining areas to be cleaned.
- All communal facilities, e.g. changing rooms, will be cleaned between usage by different bubbles.
- Start and finish times will be staggered, to avoid large gatherings outside the school.

Start and finish times

Pupils' start and finish times will be staggered in order for us to adhere to social distancing guidelines as much as possible. We recommend that pupils are dropped off or picked up by only one accompanying adult.

- A member of school staff will be stationed at the main gates to escort children safely to and from the school site.
- Parents and children must wait outside of the gates, using physical distancing of 2m apart. Queuing should be along the school boundary wall, following the 2m distancing markers. Staff will admit / dismiss children one by one, during the allotted class/group time.
- On entering and exiting the school site, staff will supervise and support children to use a hand sanitisation station or wash hands immediately on entry.
- Children will be escorted to / from their class/group base by their teacher or TA (routines for parents and children will be the same on wet days)
- Discussions with school staff will not happen at the school entrance to minimise contact – if you need to speak to school staff this would need to be done over the telephone or by email.
- We kindly ask that parents do not enter the school site or gather in groups on or outside of the school premises.

The tables below outline pupils' start and finish times, depending on their bubble, and where you should drop off or pick up your child, where relevant. Please note that times may differ for any before- and after-school clubs – further clarification is provided later in the [Before and after-school care](#) section of this handbook.

Group	Arrival time	Pick-up time	Location
<u>Nursery</u>	9.00am	1pm / 3.15pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Pre School</u>	9.00am	1pm / 3.15pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Reception</u>	8.55am	3:00pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road

<u>Year 1</u>	8:55am	3:00pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 2</u>	8.50am	3:10pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 3</u>	8.45am	3.30pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 4</u>	8.40am	3.30pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 5</u>	8.35am	3.40pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road
<u>Year 6</u>	8.30am	3.45pm	Main Entrance: Caldy Road

Late arrivals to school:

Whilst we would urge parents and children to be on time for drop off and collection at their class / bubble group allotted start time, we do understand that there may be an occasion where you are late. If parents and children are late for their class / bubble group allotted start time, they must wait until the end of the next class / bubble group's start time before staff will be able to admit a child. This is so that groups are not mixed, and an overlap of group start times is not caused. If possible, parents should telephone the school office to alert us of the late arrival.

Parents late for pick up:

If a parent is going to be late for picking up their child at the allotted class / bubble group finish time, where possible, they should telephone the school office to alert staff of the issue and for alternative arrangements to be made for your child.

Moving around the school

Movement around the school will be restricted in most circumstances, to minimise the risk of bubbles mixing or coming into contact with one another. When moving around the school, pupils will be expected to remain within their bubbles except to use certain facilities, such as toilets.

The school has put in place a one-way system to further reduce the risk of contact between those in different bubbles.

5. Infection control

Combined with social distancing, strict infection control measures are an important aspect of keeping all staff and pupils safe and healthy in school. This means that we will be enforcing new rules to ensure that good hand and respiratory hygiene is consistently maintained.

We expect pupils to follow these rules; however, we understand that some pupils may be unable to fully understand infection control principles, e.g. if they are very young or have difficulties with comprehension due to their needs. Staff will work with all pupils to ensure their safety and positively reinforce good infection control behaviour where necessary.

Here are some of the key measures that pupils will need to follow:

- Pupils will be instructed to wash their hands at various points throughout the day, including upon entering school, when they change rooms, before and after eating, before and after breaktimes, after using the toilet, and after coughing or sneezing.
- Pupils will wash their hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitiser – younger pupils and pupils with complex needs will be supervised when doing this.
- The school will enforce the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' approach to containing coughs and sneezes.
- **Updated:** Pupils who show symptoms associated with coronavirus will sent home to self-isolate for **at least 10 days.**

Prior to our phased reopening, we developed an enhanced cleaning schedule that was implemented as the school reopened to more pupils and staff. This schedule will remain in place to ensure more frequent cleaning of rooms, shared areas, and frequently touched surfaces and resources. Communal areas, such as dining areas, will be cleaned between uses by different bubbles.

Staff will also be required to follow stringent infection control measures. Full details of the infection control measures in place can be found in the school's **Infection Control Policy**, which can be accessed on the school's website.

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

The government has recommended that staff and pupils **do not need** to use PPE in school; however, staff will use PPE if a pupil shows symptoms of coronavirus and a distance of two metres cannot be maintained.

Staff will also wear PPE if they would normally wear it to carry out their role, e.g. where a child requires intimate care or is receiving first aid following an accident or injury.

Bringing items into school

To minimise the risk of potentially transmitting infections between pupils' households and the school, we ask that pupils do not bring non-essential items from home into school with them

- Essential medication and medical equipment
- Coats and other essential outdoor wear
- Spectacles and spectacle cases
- Stationery and books
- Washed PE kits (These should be worn to school on designated PE days)
- Mobile phones (to be handed in at the school office during the day)
- School Bags

– this includes footballs and other similar items. Pupils are able to take items from school, such as books, home with them to aid their education, provided that these items are properly cleaned before and after being in their homes. This equipment can be brought to school:

If your child needs to bring an item to school that is not listed above, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements.

Equipment and resources

Classroom-based resources, such as books or games, will be used and shared only within pupil groups. Pupils and members of staff will be permitted to take resources home, but only where this is deemed beneficial to pupils' education and development.

Resources that are shared between groups, such as art and science equipment, will be cleaned frequently and always between use by different bubbles.

Staff and pupils will be advised that individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, should **not be shared** and that they should have their own. School will provide these for pupils, or pupils may bring their own stationery to be used and kept in school, if they wish. Pupils will be asked to limit the amount of equipment they bring to school to essentials only, such as coats, books and mobile phones (as appropriate).

Any outdoor play equipment will be more frequently cleaned.

6. Procedure if a pupil becomes unwell on site

It is extremely important that all parents and pupils remain vigilant with regard to preventing, identifying and minimising the spread of coronavirus. We ask, therefore, that you **do not send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:**

- **A high temperature** – this means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back
- **A new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **A loss of, or change in, their normal sense of smell or taste** – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal



It is also important that you **do not send your child to school** if somebody in your household has tested positive for, or has symptoms of, coronavirus.



As a precaution, your child must not come into school for **14 days** after coronavirus has been identified in your household, whether confirmed or unconfirmed.

Please notify the school office via telephone as soon as possible if your child, or somebody in your household, is showing symptoms of coronavirus and your child cannot come into school. You may be advised to get your child tested for coronavirus and to notify the school of the result. See [below](#) for information on accessing a test.

If your child becomes unwell at school and shows symptoms of coronavirus, the school will take the following immediate actions:

- Your child will be asked to self-isolate in school using a designated area.
- Your child will be supervised while waiting for collection, where required.
- You will be notified that your child must be picked up as soon as possible.
- You will be encouraged to have your child tested for coronavirus.
- You will be encouraged to engage with the NHS Test and Trace programme.
- Areas your child has occupied will be disinfected as soon as possible.



Updated: If your child is sent home from school to self-isolate, they **must not come into school** for **at least 10 days**.

If an individual in your child's class tests positive for coronavirus, **the school will send the individual's close contacts home** to self-isolate for 14 days. Close contacts include:

- Direct close contacts – anyone in face-to-face contact with the individual for any length of time, within 1 metre – this includes face-to-face conversation, physical contact, or being coughed/sneezed on.
- Proximity contacts – anyone in extended close contact with the individual, within 1 to 2 metres for over 15 minutes.
- Travelling in a small vehicle, e.g. a car, with the individual.

We will notify you if this is the case and ask that you pick your child up from school as soon as possible. While pupils are awaiting collection, they will remain in their classroom and be able to access one toilet.

7. Access to testing

All pupils, and members of their households, will be able to access a test if they are displaying symptoms of coronavirus. If your child is displaying symptoms, we would strongly advise that you access a test.

There is information about how you can access a test on the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/>. In exceptional circumstances, e.g. where there may be a barrier to your child accessing a test elsewhere, we will provide a home testing kit for you to ensure that your child and other members of your household can easily access a test.

If your child is sent home from school with symptoms and subsequently takes a test, you must inform the school of the results as soon as possible. If the test is negative, your child can return

to school when they feel better. If the test is positive, your household will need to continue the self-isolation period from the date when the symptoms began. We encourage you to inform the school immediately of test results.

You may also need to engage with the NHS Test and Trace programme, meaning that you need to be ready and willing to:

- Book a test if your child or another member of your household displays symptoms.
- Provide details of anyone your child has been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus or are asked by NHS Test and Trace.
- Allow your child to self-isolate if they have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus symptoms or someone who tests positive.
- **Update:** As part of the NHS Test and Trace programme, the government has released the [NHS COVID-19 app](#), which aims to extend the speed, precision and reach of contact tracing. The app is available to download for anyone aged 16 and over if they choose to do so, provided that the app is compatible with their smartphone, i.e. they will need to have iOS 13.5 or later installed. The school will encourage all members of staff to download and engage with the app if they are able to do so.

8. Uniform & PE Kit

We expect pupils to attend school in full winter uniform in the Autumn term. We will be upholding our School Uniform Policy as normal, however we would ask that children from Reception to Year 6 come to school in their full winter PE kit, on their designated PE day, to reduce the requirement for changing clothes in school. Parents will be notified of their child's designated PE day(s) at the start of term.

9. Catering

Children will receive school lunches as normal. Arrangements will be put in place to ensure mixing between bubbles is avoided during lunchtime. Pupils will collect their food from the canteen as normal, at their designated time and will eat their lunch in the canteen or other suitably designated area. The canteen and dining areas will be cleaned between each use of group bubbles. Children from Reception to Y6 will require a healthy snack for morning break and will need their named water bottles in school.

10. Transport

Pupils should walk or cycle to school or be transported and dropped off by a member of their household where possible. Public transport should be avoided; however, if your child needs to use public transport to get to school, they should avoid peak times and follow guidelines on social distancing and wearing protective clothing, e.g. face masks.

11. The curriculum

Our focus is to support all pupils' health and wellbeing and to help them transition back into school life successfully.

To provide all pupils the opportunity to excel and engage with learning, the school will ensure the following:

- Increased outdoor learning, where possible
- Additional support for pupils who are at risk of falling behind their peers
- Continued support for pupils with SEND
- Provision and contingency plans for remote education

Lessons will work in a similar way to normal as far as possible; however, more focus will be placed on wellbeing, core subjects and ensuring pupils have a secure understanding of the content covered. An adequate amount of time will be spent getting pupils up-to-speed on material from the previous term that they may have missed due to partial school closures. Teaching of French will be temporarily suspended during the Autumn term for Junior classes and this will offer additional focus time for 'catch up' and revision of appropriate key skills, plus any support or interventions that we deem will be beneficial to pupils for their transition back into school.

PE lessons will continue to ensure pupils get the exercise they need; however, activities within these lessons will be strictly non-contact and pupils will remain in small, consistent groups with other pupils from their bubble throughout the term.

In response to Government advice that singing, shouting, chanting and conversing loudly may pose a higher risk of potential coronavirus transmission, these risks will be considered before planning any such activities and curriculum content may therefore be adjusted accordingly.

12. Remote learning

Although all pupils can now return to school, we must make sure we are prepared to deliver education in any eventuality, including local lockdowns. We also need to have provision in place for pupils to learn remotely if they are sent home to self-isolate. For these reasons, we have created a contingency plan for remote education, should it be required. We understand that each family's circumstances and ability to access to learning material for their children differs, which is why we are committed to doing all we can to help pupils who are learning at home.

The school will continue to provide pupils with access to learning materials remotely via an online learning portal and send emails to you or your child's school email address detailing when tasks are to be completed by.

These remote learning arrangements are in place to ensure that all pupils have access to high-quality education while they are at home. These arrangements will help all pupils to learn alongside their peers and prevent them struggling with lesson content when they return to school.

13. Behaviour expectations

To ensure the school remains a safe place, we have made the decision to enforce additional rules with regards to social distancing and infection control. Pupils are expected to follow these rules. These rules include:

- Partaking in additional hand washing.
- Minimising close contact, where possible.
- Minimising contact with those outside of their bubble, where possible.
- Not lingering in corridors, stairwells and other communal places.
- Not spitting, biting, or displaying other behaviours that put others at risk.
- Putting soiled tissues in a bin.
- Queuing to use school facilities, where required.
- Keeping to their classroom seating plan.

These measures are in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.

We understand, however, that these measures may be difficult to follow for some pupils, particularly if they are very young or experience difficulties with comprehension. The school will, therefore, consider each situation individually and work with pupils to educate them on the importance of social distancing and infection control measures and reward positive behaviour.

14. Safeguarding

Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy was updated at the beginning of the lockdown period to account for a change in provision while the school was partially closed. This policy has been updated again to reflect that we are opening to all pupils. A copy of this policy is available on the school website.

We will need to know if your child has experienced any changes regarding their welfare, health and wellbeing that we need to be aware of as they return to school. We need to know this information so we can put the appropriate support in place for your family. Please contact Mrs Callaway, designated safeguarding lead (DSL) directly, if you need to report or discuss any changes,

SEND support

The SENCO (Mr Ashton) , along with other key members of staff and external agencies, will continue to coordinate support for pupils with SEND.

The SENCO will work with parents to identify support needs for pupils with SEND that are now returning to school.

If your child has an EHC plan, we will strive to deliver the provision set out in the plan; however, there may be cases where we need to adapt the provision. If we need to do this, we will speak to you directly.

If you have any questions about the support your child is receiving, please get in touch with the SENCO directly.

15. Wellbeing

One of our key priorities as we fully open the school is ensuring pupils are given the wellbeing support they need.

Pupils will be able to speak to pastoral staff face-to-face in school to discuss how they are feeling. These staff members will be on hand to support pupils and may access external support should that be required.

If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing or wish to discuss the support available in school or externally, please contact the school office, who will arrange for a member of staff to discuss arrangements with you.

16. Visitors on site

Visitors will only be allowed into any school buildings where it is absolutely necessary, e.g. for essential building works or to provide essential support to a pupil – this also applies to parents.

Parents that need to come into school will need to make an appointment first. Meetings will only be held with parents where absolutely necessary and at a safe distance.

17. Before- and after-school care

The decision as to whether before- and after-school clubs will restart has been made based on an assessment of whether children are able to be safely distanced and in smaller groups, and whether sufficient staffing is available. We will consider how such provision can operate alongside our wider protective measures, including keeping pupils within their bubbles where possible. Where it is not possible to maintain these bubbles, we will use small, consistent groups instead.

Before- and After-school club will be restarted from Thursday 3rd September

Revised provision will be as follows:

- **Before School provision will be available from 8am – 8.30am**
- **After School provision will be available from 3pm – 5.30pm**

Morning Nursery Wraparound: This service will not be available from the start of term. We will keep this under review and will communicate any change to this, as soon as possible.

- **Afternoon Nursery Wraparound will be available from 3.30pm – 5.30pm**

Drop off and collection of children using Wraparound and Before & After School club will be at the main entrance gates. A member of school staff will be stationed at the main gates to escort children safely to and from the school site.

Considering these arrangements, we will ensure that the number of people pupils come into contact with is minimised, just as it would be in school. To help overcome the challenges faced when keeping pupils in small groups, we will frequently review the effectiveness of our

grouping arrangements and ensure our records are kept up-to-date with regards to the pupils in attendance and which member(s) of staff they have been assigned to.

We will ensure that the areas used for before- and after-school provision are thoroughly cleaned before and after use. Shared facilities, e.g. toilets, will also be cleaned more frequently, and the number of pupils using shared facilities at any one time will be limited.

The protective measures in place during before- and after-school provision will reflect the practices enforced in school, e.g. frequent hand washing. This includes the procedures to be followed if a pupil or member of staff becomes unwell with coronavirus symptoms. Individuals will be sent home immediately or asked to self-isolate in a designated room until they can be picked up.

In addition, we will ensure that the space used to host before- and after-school provision is adjusted to maximise social distancing, where required, and other protective measures, e.g. seating will be rearranged to minimise face-to-face contact with others. We will ensure indoor spaces are well ventilated and windows are kept open, where possible.

Other Extra Curricular clubs will only be restarted when it is deemed practical and safe to do so.

Parents will be informed of any changes to the above arrangements.

18. School trips

The government has advised that overnight school trips cannot go ahead at this time, but non-overnight domestic trips can take place, provided that adequate safety measures can be followed.

If we need to delay any planned school trips due to the coronavirus pandemic, we will inform you of any new arrangements and details of any alternative measures as soon as possible.

If we need to cancel a school trip altogether, we will inform you of this as soon as possible and arrange for all payments, full and partial, to be refunded. The school is not currently planning or arranging any new school trips at this time.

19. Important documents

A number of school policies and procedures have been created and updated to reflect the provisions that are in place during the coronavirus pandemic, including the following:

- **Social Distancing Policy Statement**
- **Risk Assessment for Full Opening in September**
- **Infection Control Policy**
- **Behaviour Policy**
- **Bereavement Policy**
- **First Aid and Medicines Policy**
- **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy**

Most of these documents can be found on the school website; however, if you cannot find what you are looking for, please contact the school office.

20. What can you do to help?

The support and understanding from our pupils' parents is vital when ensuring the school is a safe and happy environment. Helping your child understand the importance of infection control, good hygiene and social distancing is just one way you can help us minimise the risk of coronavirus transmission.

Here are a few additional actions you can take to help keep everyone safe:

- Remain vigilant for the symptoms of coronavirus
- Keep your child at home if they develop symptoms
- Ensure your child washes their hands before they leave for school and after they return home
- Adhere to your child's pick-up and drop-off times
- Maintain social distancing on or near the school grounds
- Keep pick-ups and drop-offs prompt – lingering on the school grounds without good reason is not permitted
- Communicate with school staff digitally instead of in person, e.g. via email
- Positively reinforce good social distancing and infection control behaviours and be a role model to all pupils

21. Reporting concerns

We remain committed to maintaining open channels of communication with all parents. Please raise any concerns in the first instance with your child's Form Teacher via the class email or contacting the school office. Our staff team will work with you to address your concerns and can escalate any concerns to the headteacher if appropriate.

Appendix – Period of national restrictions from 5 November 2020 to 2 December

The Department for Education has released guidance on how schools are impacted by the national restrictions in England to control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). The new measures came into effect on 5 November and will be in place until 2 December. This appendix will provide you with updated details for each affected section of this handbook, confirming how the new guidance impacts existing measures on our school site.

System of controls on site

We would like to reassure parents that the school will remain open to all pupils for the duration of the national lockdown. There are currently no plans for school closures or to implement rota systems. We will continue to conduct risk assessments and implement our existing system of controls on the school site, to keep our pupils safe at school.

Protecting clinically vulnerable individuals

The government has advised that most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow original shielding advice.

We are asking parents whose child has previously been classed as clinically extremely vulnerable to speak to their child's GP or specialist clinician, to understand whether their child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable. We ask that parents inform the school if their child is deemed clinically extremely vulnerable by their GP or a specialist clinician.

We do not advise or expect pupils whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable to attend school during the national lockdown. We will ensure appropriate arrangements are in place for these pupils to continue their education at remotely at home.

We expect pupils who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, however, to still attend school.

We also expect pupils who are clinically vulnerable or have underlying health conditions, but are not clinically extremely vulnerable, to continue to attend school.

If you are concerned about your child's safety and wellbeing, please contact Mrs J Callaway, the headteacher, to discuss these concerns and the protective measures in place at school.

Infection control – face coverings

There is no change to our current position on wearing face coverings. We continue to not require pupils to wear face coverings at any time.

The curriculum

We will continue to provide music lessons in school, in line with the existing safety precautions and our Infection Control Policy.

As it is important for pupils to remain active where possible, we will ensure our PE, sport and physical activity provision is delivered in line with the existing infection control measures.

We will only provide team sports listed on the return to [recreational team sport framework](#). There will be no competition between different schools during this period.

During sport activities, pupils will be kept in consistent groups and equipment will be thoroughly cleaned between each use by different groups. Outdoor sports will be prioritised, and large indoor spaces (the school hall) will be used where this is not possible. We will maximise natural ventilation, ensure distance between pupils, and ensure we conduct enhanced cleaning and hygiene measures.

Transport

Travelling to deliver and access education continues to be permitted. We continue to encourage pupils walk or cycle to and from school where possible. We recommend that pupils avoid public transport; however, where this is not possible, peak times should be avoided.

Visitors on site

We will only permit visits to the site that are absolutely necessary and these should be arranged by prior appointment.

Before- and after-school care

We will continue to offer before- and after-school clubs only where it is reasonably necessary to support parents to work, search for work, or undertake training or education, or where the provision is being used for the purpose of respite care. These arrangements will operate in line with our existing infection control measures.