



Catshill First School and Nursery

Date of Issue: Monday 24th August 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the start of the new term, I write with details of the full return to school for pupils and how we will operate in September. Much of this information is the same as you received in July. However, I urge you to make yourself familiar with the guidance and discuss the contents with your child(ren).

This letter summarises the information; I urge you to read the full guidance for parents which is found on our website [here](#). I also encourage you to read the Government guidance document for parents [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term](#)

Transition September 2020

You should have received an email on Wednesday 1st July containing specific details for your child(ren).

Please refer to your letter for your child's specific transition day(s).

To summarise the transition:

- **New Nursery** children have been invited to attend 2 Stay & Play sessions week commencing Monday 7th September. Usual hours will commence from Monday 14th September.
- **Existing Nursery** children will attend their usual hours from Thursday 3rd September.
- **New Reception** children have been invited to attend a story time session on either Thursday 3rd **OR** Friday 4th September and then 2 transition days the following week on either Monday/Tuesday (7th & 8th) **OR** Thursday Friday (10th & 11th).
- **Years 1 - 4** will attend a transition day on either Thursday 3rd **OR** Friday 4th September as advised. They will then return to school full time from Monday 7th September.
- On Wednesday 2nd September identified children will be invited to school for an enhanced transition meeting.
- All children will be in school for their usual hours/full time from Monday 14th September.

For further clarification or if you have misplaced, forgotten or not received your child's individual information, please contact the school office on Tuesday 1st September

Following the transition days, children will return to full classes and will spend most of their time in areas of the school that are restricted by year group or Key Stage. We have reduced the number of adults who will be with each class as well. However, it should be noted that some staff work with more than one class within the school.

To keep your child(ren) safe, we will not be mixing groups or gathering in large numbers for example, we will hold assembly via Zoom instead of gathering in the hall. At times, such as lunchtime or playtime, the children will mix with children from their Key Stage (maximum of 4 classes). We will encourage children to play with children from their own class/year group.

Regular hand washing arrangements will remain in place.

Practical arrangements for our return in September:

- Attendance will be mandatory and fines for absence will be back in place (if you have individual circumstances, and believe that your child should be exempt, please contact us at the start of term)
- We would like to see children wearing full school uniform where possible (see exception for PE and Forest School days)
- On PE days or Forest School days, children should come to school wearing suitable kit/clothing and footwear (PE will take place outside whenever possible). Parents will be notified of affected days in September

- Both the entrance by The Dock and the entrance by the Tulip Tree will be open. Please be mindful of other families and the need to respect social distancing
- In order to support social distancing and to avoid parents gathering in large groups, we have extended our dropping off and collection times. Children can start school between 8.45 and 9.05 and be picked up from 3.00 to 3.20 (3.30 for Nursery).
- Children will use their individual classroom doors as entrance/exit points. Year 2 children share a door. To support those who are moving to a new classroom/playground, there is a [map on our website](#) showing the location of classrooms
- We would like to avoid children using the main office as an entrance/exit. As we have extended the drop off and collection times, we ask parents/carers to use classroom doors as much as possible. If children are late, parents may still be asked to take them round to their classroom
- Parents/carers are asked to use our playground markings (red footprints) to assist with socially distant queueing
- Children using bikes or scooters must not ride these on the playgrounds
- Children must not use our playground tyre park or climbing wall before and after school. Please supervise any younger children when you are waiting for their siblings
- Hot school lunches will restart and free meals will be available to all those who are entitled. The option to pay for meals will recommence. Children who choose to bring packed lunches may do so
- We will continue to restrict visitors to our site
- Parents/carers will not be allowed to enter the building apart from the main reception area
- The main reception area is restricted to one person at a time
- Hangout Club will recommence for those who require their wraparound provision, information can be found [here](#).
- Full details can be found [here](#) on our website.

Arrangements in the event of a case or suspected case of Covid19

You should not send your child to school if they are showing symptoms of Covid19. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If they show any of these they should stay at home (self-isolate) and get a test as soon as possible.

In the event of a child showing symptoms of Covid19 while they are at school, parents/carers will be contacted and the child will have to go home. They will need to be tested as a matter of urgency.

We will then follow advice from Public Health England as to whether other children need to be isolated or tested.

Some things in school will be different and you may need to prepare your child for the return (especially if they have not been in school since the lockdown in March). We have some resources on our webpage <http://www.catshillfirst.co.uk/getting-ready-for-possible-return-june-2020-2/> that may help.

If you have questions or concerns that you wish to discuss, please make contact via the school office account.

I look forward to seeing everyone back in September.

Kind regards

Georgia Plant
Head of School