



Estcots Primary School,
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Headteacher
Mrs Rachel Brock

24th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Return to Full Opening

I am delighted to be writing to you all following the announcement on Monday that schools are to return to full opening on March 8th.

We are very much looking forward to this date and have been preparing for the children to return.

School will open fully for all year groups on Monday 8th March. All children are expected to return. Updated guidance from the DfE was published yesterday. It has outlined the safety precautions and risk assessments that need to be adhered to in order that we might open safely.

Key points

- Children will remain in bubbles of 30 or in the case of EYFS and Year 1, 60 children. This is to ensure that contact tracing can be thorough and reduce transmission of the virus to larger cohorts of children.
- Classroom layout will be forward facing desks and allow for as much social distancing as possible. Rooms will be well ventilated; teachers where possible are to remain front of class.
- Lunchtime will be taken in the classrooms or outside if a warm day and with children from their bubble.
- Staggered start and end to the day with spaced entrances to allow for social distancing.
- Positive cases must be reported. If your child is ill or has symptoms in school, we will ask for them to be collected and tested.
- If there is a positive case in school, the bubble will have to self-isolate for 10 days and move to remote learning packs.
- Staff are carrying out lateral flow testing twice a week. This helps us to make the environment even safer. There will be no testing of primary age children in school or at home.

Breakfast club and All Kids

Breakfast club and All Kids will resume on March 8th. Please email hfarren@estcots.co.uk with your requirements for breakfast club. All Kids will be sending communication to their parents as soon as is possible.



Drop off and Pick up

Drop off and pick up arrangements remain the same time and gates as the Autumn term. We continue to ask you please to only send one adult to drop off or pick up, wear masks on school site and socially distance from each other when around school.

These arrangements will remain in place for the 4 weeks left of this term after 8th March. I will be reviewing them after Easter with a view to returning to normal as soon as DfE permits.

Things to do in preparation and to help with the return to school:

- Be vigilant with your child's health and ensure they are well and not mixing with other households outside of school.
- Please remember to take your child's temperature before school
- School uniform to be worn to school and on PE days PE kits.
- Arrive on time for drop off and pick up to help with the flow of numbers on site.
- Ensure they have a pencil case, drink, snack, (packed lunch) in a small bag
- If any member of the household has Covid symptoms, please keep the children at home whilst you are seeking a test.
- Look forward to coming back to school, meeting their friends and doing some in school learning!

When we return, our curriculum will continue to be broad and balanced. In the first few weeks we will be focusing on oracy, social skills, active learning and building stamina and concentration as well as making thorough assessments and plans for a comprehensive curriculum to support the children in making continued progress from where they are now. We intend to take lots of opportunities to help the children to interact and work together with minimal screen time.

We have increased part-time teacher hours to enable some small group work and support during lessons.

Our reports that normally would have been sent out at the end of this term will now be sent out midway through next term. We will be holding a parents' evening in the first half of the Summer term, details to follow.

Over the coming weeks you will see a return of after school clubs as we manage to arrange them, and extra-curricular opportunities to support children.

All measures will be reviewed towards the end of the Easter holidays so that we might be able to relax some measures for the summer term.

Finally, I wanted to express my gratitude to all of you for the support, patience and care you have given the children during this period of home learning. It certainly is not an easy ask to be teaching at home whilst juggling the demands of work and home life – thank you! Another thank you and well done must go to all our wonderful pupils who have demonstrated their resilience and ability to adapt and work hard in challenging times. I am always so proud of all their achievements and look forward to working with our school community in continuing the learning journey throughout a much more settled summer term and end to our academic year.

Looking forward to seeing you all very soon!

Kind regards



Mrs Rachel Brock
Headteacher

School drop off and pick up times

Gate	Year Group	Drop off	Pick up
Gate 1 (Field Gate)	Year 6	8:30	2:40
	Year 4	8:40	2:50
Gate 2 (Main Entrance)	Year 5	8:30	2:40
	Year 3	8:40	2:50
Gate 3 (Top Playground)	Year 2	8:30	2:40
	Year 1	8:40	2:50
	EYFS	8:50	2:30