



September 2020

Reopening Plan

Current guidance and statistics

The DfE guidance for schools returning in September 2020 was published on July 2nd and is available [here](#) and further guidance for parents [here](#)

The DfE guidance outlines an aspiration that all schools will return to school full time from the beginning of the autumn term and this is also the plan for Barton Clough. However, at the time of writing there is still public health advice in place to minimise the risk of transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) in schools and thus we will be making changes to the way it operates in September 2020 to keep children and staff safe from contagion. These changes are outlined in the sections below.

- 1.1 In summary the DfE guidance plans two main ways to limit transmission of the virus from September:
- i. Ensuring pupils remain in consistent groups (known as 'bubbles') wherever possible, thereby minimising the number of contacts between different people across the school. The new guidance says *'schools may (now) need to change the emphasis on bubbles within their system of controls and increase the size of these groups'* (see 2.2)
 - ii. By maintaining distance between individuals wherever possible ('social distancing'). Our experience with keyworker provision and the limited return to school since June 8th shows us that this is harder for children in EYFS and thus we propose different arrangements for children of this age (see [2.4 and 2.5.1])

Operational situation

Preventative hygiene and PPE.

- **Clean hands thoroughly and more often than usual.** We now have good stocks of sanitiser by every door and in all classrooms. We will spend time in the first weeks back ensuring that children understand the importance of cleaning their hands regularly, including when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, when they change rooms and before and after eating;
- **Undertake the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach** with enough tissues and bins available in each school to support children and staff to follow this routine;

'Bubbles'. We will be running a two-tiered bubble system. Classes will be determined as hard bubbles and will endeavour not to mix with other bubbles.

However, due to staffing and toilet availability we will also be using a second layer, with a soft bubble as follows:

Bubble 1	Class YR/1
Bubble 2	Acorn and Oak
Bubble 3	Class Y1/2, Y2/3 and Y4
Bubble 4	Class Y5 & Y6

For the majority of the time a distinct group of adults will support each 'bubble'. Adults will endeavour to maintain a 2-metre distance from each other, and from the children as the adults are statistically at a higher risk.

Having soft 'bubbles' allows for breaks and PPA to be covered and also allows the leadership in the Trust to cover any staff absence from with the same group of adults.

Classroom seating. As the children are in class bubbles we have made the decision to support the children's return to school for the children to be sat in small table groups. This will allow children to work collaboratively together and rebuild relationships.

Children in EYFS (and Year One in the Autumn term) will be following a free flow, play based curriculum. To reduce contact, there will be limited numbers of children sat on the carpet with others seated in chairs around or at the back of the carpet area. Whole class teaching sessions will be no longer than 15 minutes and all classrooms will be well ventilated. It will not be possible, nor is it required, to enforce social distancing measures with children in EYFS. This means that children will come into contact with all the children in their class. Staff will endeavour to maintain a 2-metre distance from each other, and from the children as the adults are statistically at higher risk.

Learning resources. For individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, staff and pupils will have their own items that are not shared. Classroom based resources, such as books and games, can be used and shared within the class bubble; these should be cleaned regularly, along with all frequently touched surfaces. Resources with multiple small parts should be avoided as they are time consuming to clean after use.

In KS1 and KS2 resources that are shared between classes or bubbles, such as sports, art and science equipment will be cleaned frequently and meticulously and always between bubbles, or rotated to allow them to be left unused and out of reach for a period of 48 hours (72 hours for plastics) between use by different bubbles. Individual year group bubbles will not share equipment at playtimes

Attendance. All children are expected to attend school in September. It is extremely important that children are in school so that they can access their education.

Assemblies. There will be no traditional whole school or key stage assemblies during the first part of the autumn term and these will be replaced by Community Meets (soft bubbles) in the school hall and Community Time in hard bubbles in the classroom

School trips. School trips are not planned during the autumn term.

Group work and interventions. Children working in learning spaces outside the classroom should take all equipment they require with them to the intervention area. The area will be cleaned over lunch, before pupils from another bubble use the same area – i.e. a single group using the space in the morning and a single group in the afternoon. Staff and children will wash their hands before returning to their own classroom.

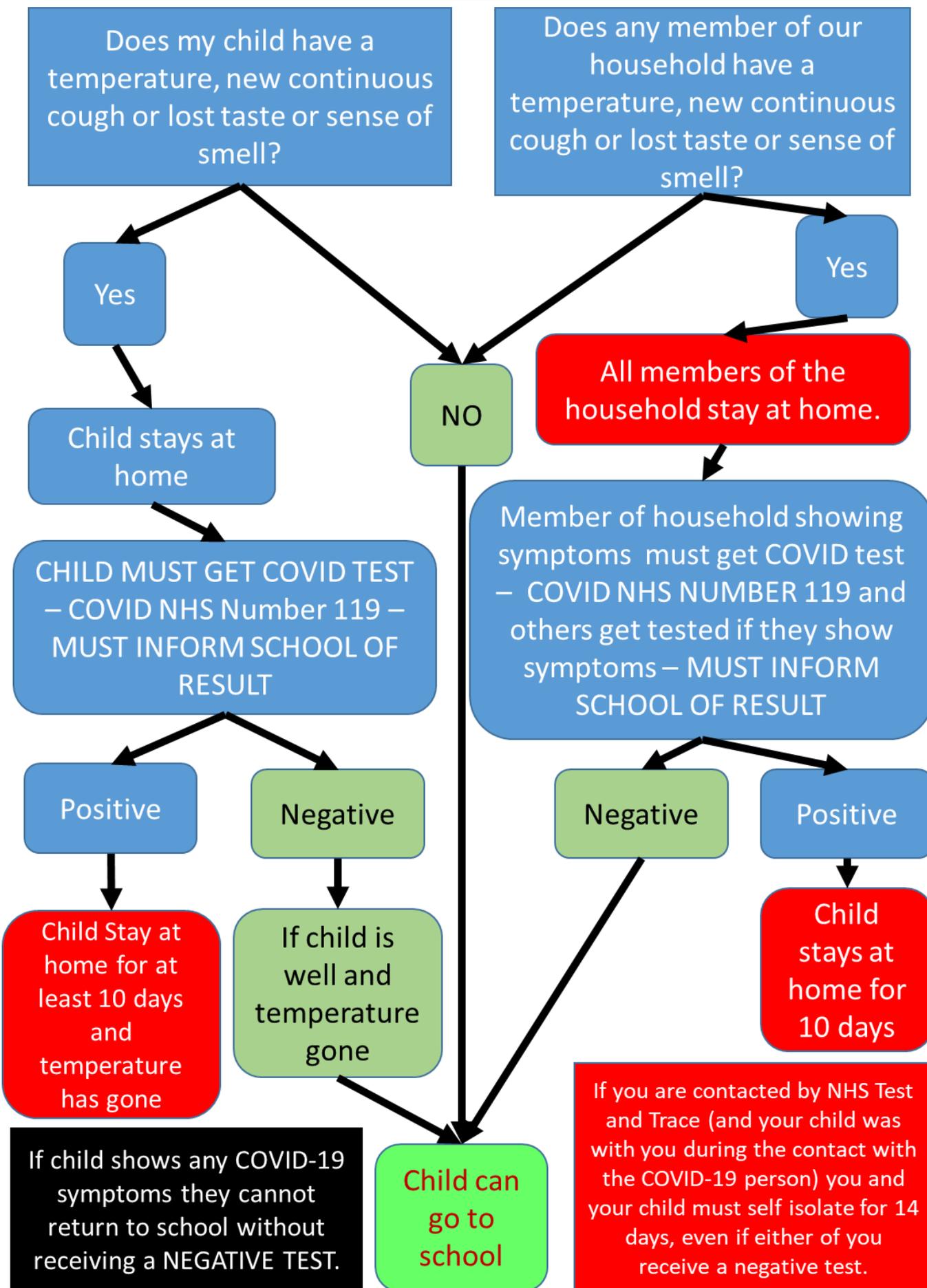
Start and end of the day. See below plan for start and end of the day.

Class	Teacher	Drop-off	Pick-up	Where?
Year 6	Miss Higgins	8:30am	3pm	KS2 Playground
Year 5	Miss Race	8:30am	3pm	KS2 Playground
Year 4	Mr Jones	8:40am	3:10pm	KS2 Playground
Year 2/3	Miss North	8:40am	3:10pm	KS2 Playground
Year 1/2	Mr Hinton	8:45am	3:15pm	KS2 Playground
Year R/1	Miss Hulme	8:50am	3:15pm	Year R/1 Classroom
Acorn	Mrs Mitchell	9am	3:15pm	KS2 Playground
Oak	Miss Donoghue	9am	3:15pm	KS2 Playground

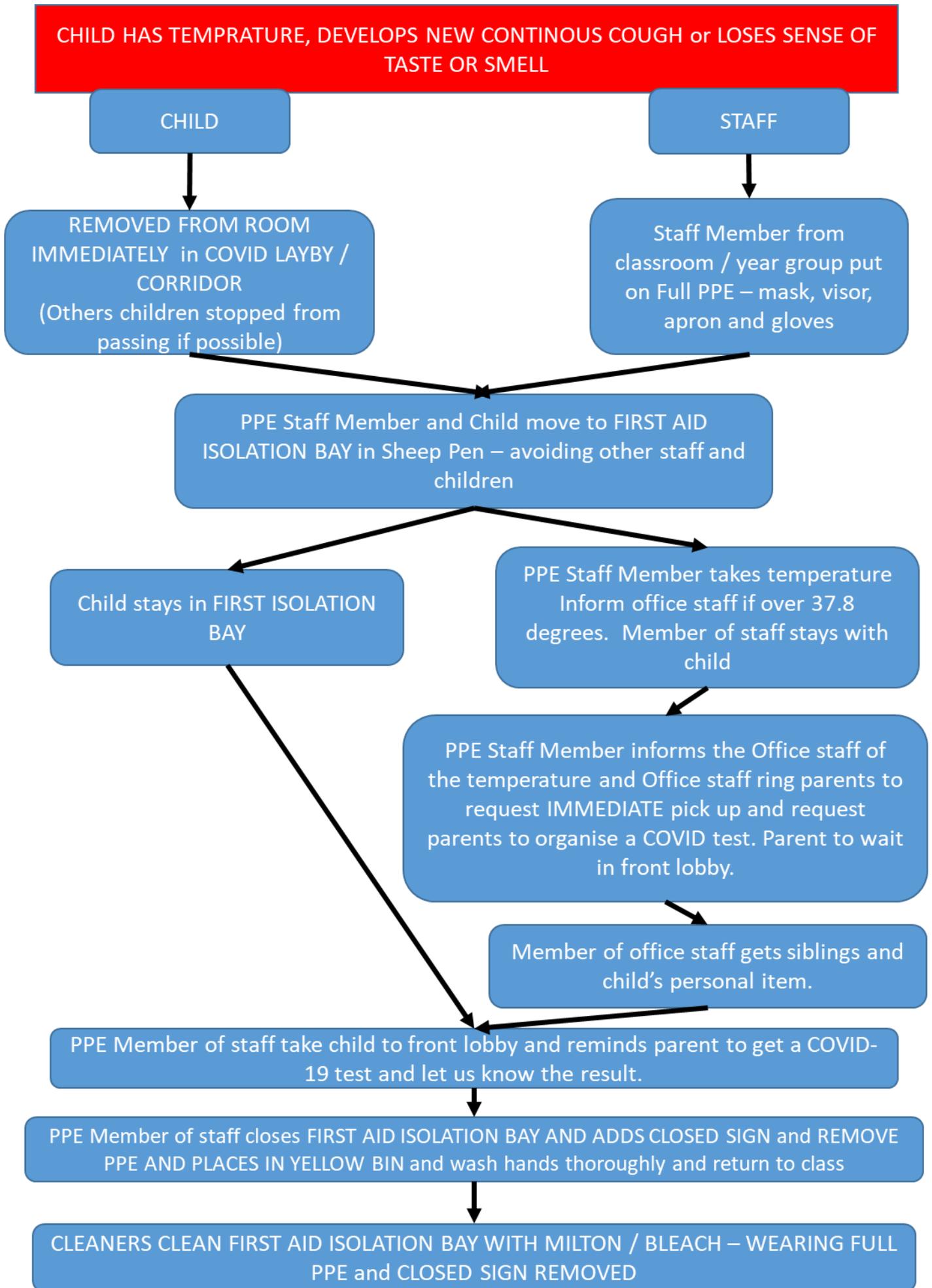
School office. School offices will remain closed to personal visitors. Parents should do all they can to ensure that children have all that they need for the day (e.g. packed lunches) at the start of the day and if there is an emergency meaning that their child needs to be collected at a different time should telephone the school first. SLT will arrange to meet parents with their child in the open air. All other communication should be done by telephone or e-mail as detailed on the school website.

Children or staff suspected of having COVID-19. See flow charts below.

COVID SYMPTOMS AT HOME FLOW CHART



ACTIONS IF CHILD SHOWS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AT SCHOOL



Containing any outbreak by following local health protection team advice. If any of our schools have two or more confirmed cases within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected, we may have an outbreak, and the school will continue to work with Trafford's health protection team who will be able to advise if additional action is required.

In some cases, health protection teams may recommend that a larger number of other pupils self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure – perhaps the whole site or year group. As our school will be implementing controls from the suggested DfE list, addressing the risks they have identified and therefore reducing transmission risks, a whole school closure based on cases within the school can hopefully be avoided. In the case of a shutdown home schooling will resume.

Enhanced cleaning regimes. The school has organised a cleaning rota, supervised by the site manager.

Coats and bags. As year group bubbles will not share the same cloakroom facilities, coats, lunchboxes and bags can be brought into school. No pencil cases will be allowed in school, all equipment will be provided for the children.

The importance of fresh air. Windows and doors should be left open in most cases even as the weather gets colder. Children may be allowed to wear coats in class.

Behaviour. An addendum to our behaviour policy was formulated in June 2020. In the addendum we have had to change some of our expectations around pupils' behaviour and make these clear to all. In these times of heightened risk to our health, it is important that children and staff are aware that unhygienic behaviour is taken very seriously.

In addition, and in order to keep ourselves 'safe, healthy and happy' children must be aware of the new requirements in the addendum namely that they must:

- i. Stay at least 1+ metres apart from each other wherever possible (with a common-sense approach taken to EYFS pupils);
- ii. Use their own specific equipment (including resources) and not share any of these;
- iii. Not share any food, drinks, cups or water bottles;
- iv. Work, eat and play in our designated group, and minimise contact with children from other groups (including in the playground, anywhere on the school site and on our way to and from school)
- v. Move around school as instructed by our teacher/adult and avoiding other people
- vi. Never cough, sneeze or spit towards another person; catch all coughs and sneezes in a tissue and throw it away (catch it, bin it, kill it), then wash our hands
- vii. Wash hands frequently (including whenever we are asked to), with soap and water for 20 seconds (e.g. by singing happy birthday twice) or with hand sanitiser if soap and water are not available;
- viii. Not touch or hug anybody in school for any reason;
- ix. Not bring or take home anything from school apart from our book bag, water bottle (and packed lunch if required)

Planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) release time. The government advice makes it clear that adult staff members can now work across groups of pupils as they are able to regulate their behaviour and maintain an appropriate, safe distance from pupils. PPA and class cover arrangements which may bring additional adults into contact with groups of pupils will continue. In these cases, staff will maintain appropriate distance from the children for their own and the children's safety. This year we have invested in PPA cover from Junior Jam who will work in the school on Fridays for teacher PPA. Leadership time will be covered by the school's two HLTAs.

School lunches. Children will eat in their classrooms or have a designated lunch hall time. Hot food will be served.

Availability of water on site. All pupils should have their own school water bottle that is untouched by other children or staff, whether it comes from home or is one that is provided by the school. Water is available in school to refill children's own water bottles. Disposable plastic cups may also be available that should be thrown away after use.

Travel to and from school. In accordance with our current risk assessment we encourage parents, staff and pupils to walk, use a scooter or cycle to school if at all possible. Children should not travel to or from school with other children or with another family outside of their "bubble". - Face coverings are required at all times on public transport (including for children, over the age of 11).

School uniform. Full school uniform (including school shoes) should be worn as normal. We ask that parents wash uniform more regularly than normal in order to attain the highest levels of hygiene within the school.

Toilets. Toilets are shared between year groups and are allocated certain toilet stalls to a particular year groups and additional cleaning will be in place. All children should clean their hands with hand sanitiser before leaving their classroom and then wash hands after they have been to the toilet and be reminded to do so.

Curriculum

Curriculum for reconnection. It is clear from those children who returned in June that the enforced break has had an impact on children's behaviour for learning. The situation may change after the summer holiday but is clear that some children have become passive and even withdrawn during the lockdown. Time will be taken for the children reconnect with their peers and the school adults. Community Time will be established with time in the curriculum for mindfulness, meditation and talk.

Whilst we are confident that many children will quickly 'bounce back' after the lockdown we are aware that there will be some children returning who have experienced bereavements amongst friends or family or who have experienced anxiety or stress during this time. Where required referrals to Educational Psychologists and signposting to other organisations who might provide support will be undertaken.

In September we had planned to begin our updated PSHE curriculum and we have now reconfigured this for autumn 2020 so that work in all year groups centres on health and wellbeing. We will allow extra time for this in the autumn term as well as ensuring that community time is timetabled.

Collective mindset – contextualising the lockdown. Our staff do not feel that it is helpful to focus on what has been 'lost' during the shutdown. staff will remain calm and measured in September knowing that whatever the situation we have the staff with the best knowledge and experience of how to teach, support and help our children in 'closing the gap' where required. We will not make our children worry unnecessarily or make them think that things are worse than they are and where issues present themselves our language will reflect our long established 'growth mindset' philosophy – *'you can't do it yet'*.

PE, games and coaching. PE kits must be kept in school at all times and taken home twice every half term. School will arrange for children to be reminded when to take their PE kits home. These will then need to be washed and returned to school for the following week. We will endeavour to have as many PE and games sessions outside as we can.

Swimming. Swimming will not take place during the autumn term.

Music. The Dfe guidance says *'Schools should note that there may be an additional risk of infection in environments where you or others are singing, chanting, playing wind or brass instruments or shouting'*.

Junior Jam will be covering the music curriculum in PPA. Their planning will be adjusted to ensure singing is not taught in the Autumn Term.

Reading books for home. Children will take home a school reading book and once they are returned they will be cleaned before being used again. It is vital that you support your child at home with their reading and sign their reading record each night. These will be checked by staff daily.

Broad and balanced curriculum. We intend to continue with our normal, broad curriculum in all subjects from the start of the autumn term. We will make use of existing flexibilities to begin at appropriate starting points for all our children and this may mean that not all subjects are taught every term although as we return to normal working this is our aspiration.

Pupils with additional needs. We are aware that for some children with additional needs, returning to school after lockdown may cause additional anxiety or stress. In some cases, children with additional needs may require a risk assessment to be completed. This will be completed with input from the class teacher, child, parent/ carer and the SENCo.

Staff will continue to be responsive to the needs of individual pupils and additional support will be provided where necessary. Small group or 1:1 support may take a different form in the autumn term so that adults and children remain safe, for example, sitting side by side, staff and pupils working at a greater distance from each other, and working in different parts of the school building.

Physical contact, such as guiding a child or hand-over-hand support will be kept to a minimum and all staff working with children requiring such support are familiar with the use of preventative hygiene, including regular hand washing.

Referrals to external agencies such as Speech and Language, CAMHS and the Educational Psychologists will continue. We will also support families by signposting them to organisations who may be able to provide support during this time, including staff members on the inclusion team such as the Family Support Worker or Learning Mentor

Contingency planning for further lockdown/no full September start

In the event of a Trafford wide lockdown We would revert to an enhanced version of the arrangements which were in place during the nationwide lockdown.

- a) Children will become made familiar with The Oak National Academy, which will be used as the main online teaching tool. We will send out further information on this in the event of a local lockdown.
- b) Class Dojo will be used as the class communication tool and timetabling of children's work.
- c) Paper learning packs will be readied in advance
- d) There will be a daily online Meet with their class teacher or a TA from their year group in school and an expectation that children would attend. Quizzes and work may be required to be submitted for children in years 1-6 through ClassDojo for feedback. If children are absent or work set is not forthcoming phone calls would be made home.