

Tweeddale Primary School

Return to school.

FAQ for parents

Why is school not reopening for Reception, Y1 and Y6 on 01/06/20?

The government has stated that preference to critical worker children. As the criteria for this is changing on 29/05/20, the number of these children attending school is likely to increase. Therefore, the plans for reopening have allowed for this.

My child is in Y1/Y6 and I did not reply to the school survey by 22/05/20. Can I still bring them to school when it reopens?

No. The plans for reopening have been based on the numbers that responded to the survey. There will be an additional opportunity to request a place during the week commencing 08/06/20.

What happens if I am late bringing my child to school?

In order to maintain social distancing, ALL children must be brought to school on time and be dropped off at their allocated door. The school office will be closed to parents unless they have an appointment.

Why is school closing on a Friday afternoon?

With the increased use of the school building, it will be necessary for a deep clean of rooms and equipment to take place. Teaching staff will have their planning and preparation time entitlement on a Friday afternoon whilst working from home. The site will be closed to **ALL** but cleaning staff.

Why are there staggered start and finish times within year groups?

The government has advised that parents should not be allowed on school sites. However, due to the fact that we have a very narrow road with one pavement, and a very large playground, we have decided to allow parents on site to enable them to social distance with reduced numbers.

What lessons will my child receive if they return to school?

The lessons for children at school will be planned by their year group teachers but not necessarily be taught by them. The lessons will have a similar learning objective as those being provided via Google Classroom for those children still at home.

Will my child be mixing with other children outside their bubble?

No. Playgrounds have been allocated to year groups and different bubbles in the same year groups will have staggered break times. There will be no assemblies and lunch will be eaten in classrooms.

What is a bubble?

A bubble is a group of up to 12 children (depending on the needs of the children within that group) who will be taught by the same two members of staff throughout the week. It may not be your child's normal teaching staff. They will not be mixing with children from any other bubbles.

If I choose not to send my child to school, will there still be online learning for them?

Yes, online learning will continue for all year groups.

Why have the hours of the school day been shortened?

The hours have been shortened to enable social distancing to be maintained for children and parents coming into and leaving school. The earlier finish will enable daily deep cleaning to take place.

My child is in Y2, Y3, Y4 or Y5. When will they return to school?

We are awaiting government guidance relating to the return of these year groups. As soon as we have any further information, we will be in contact.

Will critical worker children from Reception, Y1 and Y6 stay with other critical worker children or be placed with their year groups?

They will be placed in a bubble in their year groups.

If my child returns to school, do they have to attend full time?

For EYFS, Yr1 and Yr6, the placement will be full time and children will be expected to attend 5 days a week. Critical worker children will still be able to attend days when their parents are working.

If I send my child back to school, will I still get my FSM voucher?

FSM children returning to school will no longer receive a voucher as they will be provided with a school packed lunch.

How will you stop children mixing in the playground and dining hall?

Each year will have their own playground and will have staggered timings between bubbles within these year groups. All bubbles will have their packed lunches in their own classroom or outside (weather permitting).

Will my child have to wear school uniform?

Yes. All children will be expected to wear full and appropriate uniform when they return to school.

Does my child need a PE kit?

Initially, only Yr6 will need to bring a PE kit to school. This may be subject to change.

Will swimming lessons still go ahead?

No, social distancing cannot be maintained in the changing rooms.

Does my child need a water bottle?

Yes. They will require their own bottle which is named.

Will school dinners be provided?

The canteen will provide packed lunches for FSM children and for children who would normally have a school dinner.

How will children going to the toilet be organised?

There will be staggered timings for each bubbles allocated toilets and social distancing will be maintained within the toilets.

What will the cleaning arrangements at school be?

Additional cleaning time has been allocated. For further details please see the risk assessment on the school website.

Will breakfast club and late club be running?

No. We are unable to provide these additional facilities at present.

When will I be told which bubble my child is in?

You will receive an email on 01/06/20. Please remember that only children who registered using the survey will have obtained a place.

What do I do if my child displays symptoms at home but has been coming to school?

You will need to notify the school office and then apply for your child to have a test for COVID. If the result is negative then your child may return to school. If it is positive, your child and all of your household must self-isolate for 14 days. The school will be notified and all of the staff and children in that bubble will also need to self-isolate for 14 days.

What do I do if someone in my household displays symptoms and my child has been coming to school?

You will need to notify the school office and then apply for the family member to have a test for COVID. Your child may continue to come to school. If the result is negative then no action is needed.

If it is positive, your child and all of your household must self-isolate for 14 days. If your child then develops symptoms, please see the answer above.

What do I do if my child tests positive for COVID but has been coming to school?

The school will be notified and all of the staff and children in that bubble will also need to self-isolate for 14 days.

What do I do if someone in my household tests positive for COVID and my child has been coming to school?

If it is positive, your child and all of your household must self-isolate for 14 days. The school will be notified and the staff and children in that bubble may also need to self-isolate for 14 days.

I am a key worker or the parent of a vulnerable child but do not want to send my child to school. Will I be penalised?

No. Parents will not be penalised if their child does not attend school.

Will the school be open during the summer holiday for critical worker children?

There are no plans to open the school during the summer holiday. This will be reviewed if there is a second lockdown (either nationally or locally).

How can I report if I am worried a child or young person might be at risk of harm?

If you are worried about a child who attends Tweeddale Primary School, please contact the school and ask to speak to the DSL on duty.

To further protect children and young people from harm, we are working with the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) to expand and promote its helpline.

Parents or any adult will be able to call if they want someone to talk to, and they should get in touch if they are worried about a child or young person. Anyone with concerns should call 0808 800 5000 or email help@nspcc.org.uk.

My child has an EHC plan. What support will they receive?

The government has made some amendments to the law around education, health and care (EHC) plans to provide some flexibility in the current circumstances. Mrs Ashton is available to discuss how we can meet your child's needs. Please contact the school office.

Will I be counted as a critical worker?

Critical workers include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors. Children of critical workers will have priority places allocated. Do not just turn up at school if you need a place. Critical worker children in N, Rec, Yr1 or Yr6 will be allocated places in a bubble in their year

group. Critical worker children in Yr2, Yr3, Yr4 or Yr5 will be allocated a place in the mobile (yr4) classrooms.

A new survey for parents to request a critical worker placement for their child will be available on Friday 29th May and will close at midday on 1st June. Please note you will be asked to provide evidence from your employer.

I am a critical worker but I don't want to send my child into school or childcare, do I have to?

No. Parents will not be penalised if their child does not attend school.

What if I have to leave my children at home unattended?

There is no need to leave your child at home alone if you are a critical worker or if your child is classed as vulnerable, as they can attend school.

Read the government advice on the [law on leaving children unattended](#).