



Preparations for the full opening of Fairchildes -7th September 2020

Introduction:

The government has decided that it is now safe enough for all children to return to school from 7th September. Whilst we are really looking forward to seeing all of our children and their families, and we are determined to keep our school feeling warm and welcoming, we know that some things have to be different in order to keep everybody safe and to meet the government guidelines. Our plans are set out below. You will see that they are based around children being split into year group pods.

Year Group Pods-

Our aim is to prevent the children mixing with too many other children and adults during their time at school. Allowing the children to mix with other children in their year group will mean that we can continue to work within our sets for subjects like maths, literacy and phonics, so that your children are targeted to make the most possible progress. Each year group will have their own timetable which will ensure that they don't come into close contact with any other year group at playtime, lunchtime or when moving around the school.

You will have seen on the news that the government directive is that children from years 1-6 sit in rows, so classrooms will look a little different and for the time being children will not sit together on the carpet. Although they will have another child sitting at the desk with them, we will be reminding/teaching them about the importance of social distancing.

We know that in the early years social distancing is extremely difficult, which is why staying in a year group pod with the same children, not mixing with others, the frequent cleaning of equipment and the washing of hands will be so important.

Attendance:

All children are expected to attend school from 7th September (Nursery and Reception pupils have been given their start dates). We appreciate that whilst for most families this return to school will be a welcome return to normality, for some children and their families this is going to be an extremely difficult time. Please remember that we are here to help you; please don't struggle, call us.

Mental Health and wellbeing:

This time has been difficult for everybody. We appreciate that for many children leaving their parents will be an additional anxiety. Our pastoral team will be here including our mentors, counsellors and the Dot Com ladies. There are many adults for your children to talk to and staff will ensure that there is plenty of time for the children to talk and voice their concerns. Similarly, some of **you** may find the return to school extremely stressful, please remember that our pastoral team is here to support your whole family.

Uniform

Children will be expected to wear school uniform when they return to school. If you need to buy a new jumper or cardigan, these can be ordered on our school website - <https://www.factrust.org/fairchildesuniformorder>

Your child will also need to bring his/her PE kit back to school. The welcome letters from year group teachers all mention the days that PE kits are needed.

Resources including stationery

Knowing what is coming in and out of the classroom and keeping our resources clean will be even more important in the new term, and to that end, we do not want children to bring in stationery. We will give each child their own pencil case, which will contain writing, and colouring pencils, whiteboard pens and a rubber, they will also have their own ruler. These items will stay on their desk or be kept in their tray. Other resources, such as books, glue, pencil sharpeners, games etc will be cleaned regularly and will not be shared with other classes.

Soft furnishings, cushions etc and toys that cannot be easily cleaned will be removed from all classrooms.

Each year group will be given their own set of PE equipment and outdoor games/toys; these will not be shared with other year groups and will be cleaned regularly.

What can my child bring in their bag?

Children must bring their PE kits and if they are having one, a packed lunch. Children can also carry their reading book and any homework back and forth between school and home. Please make sure that your child doesn't bring any toys to school. Older children can bring their mobile phones, if you feel that this is necessary, but these must be handed to the class teacher each morning, they will be wiped and placed in a container in the cupboard for collection at the end of the day.

Breakfast and After School Club.

Following the government guidelines, we will be running both breakfast and after school club from September, **both will require a weeks' notice for bookings.**

Breakfast Club:

The dining room is currently spilt in two and with tables either side, children will have to sit with other members of their year group, they will eat and then play at the same table. Games and resources will not be shared between year groups.

- The costs for next term are £3.50 from 7:30am or £2.50 from 8:00 am. A member of the breakfast club staff will meet children at the gate.

To book a place please email Miss England bc@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

After School Club:

Whenever possible the children will be outside at after school club and will be encouraged to practise social distancing. When they come in, they will be split into three groups- the early years, key stage 1 and key stage 2, each with its own area and set of games. The children will sit in their groups during snack time.

- The costs for next term are- end of school day to 5pm -£8.00 or end of the school day to 6pm-£10.00

Children will be collected at the school gates.

To book a place please email Mrs Maskell asc@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

School meals

Children will stay in their year groups at lunchtime, which will have a staggered start and finish.

Children in reception, years 1 and 2 are eligible for a universal free school meal and we would urge you to encourage your child to take up this offer and save yourself the expense and time of making a packed lunch. Our school cook, Mrs Andrews, will be more than happy to speak to you about your child's allergies, likes and dislikes. You can contact her on - *01689842268 ext 4*

Children in the upper school who are not entitled to benefit related free school meals should pay for their lunch on Parent Pay as usual. Lunches are £2.30. Menus are posted on the school website.

We would be most grateful if children bringing in packed lunches did so using a paper bag that can be thrown away.

Water Bottles:

All children should bring a reusable water bottle. These will be put in the school dishwasher each afternoon to be refilled the next morning.

Playtimes and break times-

Children will stay in their year groups at these times and will mix with these children only. The upper school playground will be split into two halves.

All year groups will be timetabled for outdoor playtime for break and lunchtime, but year groups will not mix.

Each year group will have its own outdoor play equipment, which will be for their use only. This will be cleaned after school each day.

Children will be allowed to use the large trim trail equipment, but only with other children in their year group. Social distancing will be encourage at these times. The equipment will be cleaned regularly.

Hand sanitizer and soap

Handwashing sessions will be built into the daily routine. We are aware that several children have built up an allergic reaction to the hand sanitizers, please tell us if this is relevant to your child, so that we can ensure that they are always using soap and water at these times.

Cleaning:

The bins will be emptied throughout the day. Tables, chairs, light switches, door handles and shared equipment will be cleaned thoroughly each day. Staff in the early years will clean the play equipment at the end of each day. The site staff will clean the outdoor play equipment each afternoon, including the bikes, scooters etc belonging to each of the year groups.

Toilets- The toilets will be cleaned in the morning, in the middle of the day and at the end of the afternoon.

Parents-

For the time being parents will not be allowed past the school gates at drop off and pick up times. We want to limit the number of adults coming into our school. The times for entry and exit for each pod are written below; please make sure that you stick to them. If you need to speak to any of us face to face, please ring and make an appointment. Alternatively, email or contact us at school and we will respond as soon as possible. (Arrangements have been made for our new nursery pupils to have a taster session before the start of term; this will allow parents to see their children in situ, and for the children to get to know the staff.)

Visitors to school:

We will try to keep visitors to school to a minimum, but people such as the speech therapist, educational psychologist etc are key to our children's progress. Visitors will sign in as usual, but will also be given a sheet of Do's and Don'ts in terms of social distancing, in order to keep our children and staff safe.

First Aid.

Should a child fall over and cut themselves, a first aider will deal with the child. The first aider will wear gloves and a visor when dealing with the cut. We will note it in the medical book, the child will be given a green slip and if necessary, you will be called. We will call you if your child bumps his/her head.

Minimising the risk of infection

Before we return to school, we will send you a booklet, which will lay out exactly what happens should a child or member of staff be taken ill with Covid-19. It will detail what **we** will do and what **you** should do in terms of isolating your family, but to summarise:

If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, they must be sent home. If a child is awaiting collection, they will be taken to the therapy room in the 360 where they can be isolated behind a closed door and with appropriate adult supervision. Windows will be opened for ventilation. If they need to go to the toilet while waiting to be collected, they will use the accessible toilet, which will be cleaned and disinfected before being used by anyone else. PPE will be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection.

We will be following the government guidelines which say:

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

And

Schools must take swift action when they become aware that someone who has attended has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). Schools should contact the local health protection team. This team will also contact schools directly if they become aware that someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) attended the school – as identified by NHS Test and Trace.

The health protection team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate.

The health protection team will work with schools in this situation to guide them through the actions they need to take. Based on the advice from the health protection team, schools must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. Close contact means:

- *direct close contacts - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)*
- *proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual*
- *travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person*

If schools have two or more confirmed cases within 14 days or an overall rise in sickness absence where coronavirus (COVID-19) is suspected, they may have an outbreak, and must continue to work with their local health protection team who will be able to advise if additional action is required.

Daily temperature reading:

In order to keep our children and staff safe, each morning as your child enters his/her classroom their temperature will be taken on an infrared thermometer, by the class teacher or TA. This is a very quick process, taking seconds to take and read. All adults in school will also have their temperature taken each morning. If your child has a high temperature, we will contact you to take him/her home.

Face coverings:

At the time of writing, the government directive is that face masks are not worn in school. However, we appreciate that some of our pupils travel to school by public transport and that they may choose to wear a facemask to do so. Nearer to the beginning of term I will send out a note asking you to notify us if your child travels to school on public transport and wears a facemask, as we are keen that initially, they keep it on until they get to school, where they can be supervised to take it off correctly, put it in a plastic bag and then wash their hands immediately.

Children will not be required to wear a visor in the new term.

Catch up learning:

We know that the children are going to return to us in September at different stages in their learning. Some have been at school for most of lockdown, some have worked every day at home and others have not done so much.

Your child's new teacher has spent some time with their last teacher discussing their progress and what the expectations are for him/her. During the first weeks, back teachers will be assessing the needs of children in their class, as they always do, and additional intervention will be put in where necessary. There will, of course, be a focus on reading, writing and maths, when the children return, but we will continue to offer a wide and exciting curriculum.

In some subjects, there will be temporary changes to the curriculum, for example contact sports are not allowed at school at the moment and so netball and football will not be played, but there are plenty of other great PE activities for your child to be involved in. Similarly, the children are not allowed to sing in large groups, but we will ensure that they have plenty of opportunity to play the many musical instruments we have at school.

Google Classroom

Fairchildes' parents have done a superb job on Google Classroom during these last 3 months, and whilst I have no doubt that some of you will be glad not to have to follow it each day, we will still be using it to link school and homework, although clearly not to the extent it is used now. Teachers may pose questions on it, or suggest ideas for research, or post spellings to be learnt. It is really important that your child continues to be familiar with this format of working as, should there be a need to close a year group, or the school, we will revert to remote lessons, so that learning is not interrupted.

Interventions:

Some members of staff carry out interventions; this involves taking children from their own classroom to work in a smaller room, such as the speech and language or the funky fingers groups. The government guidelines are clear that such groups can continue as long as the groups are made up of children from the same year group and that equipment and tables are cleaned thoroughly between groups.

Guidelines also advise that our teaching staff work inside their own year group pods and minimise contact with children and adults outside these groups, we will continue to follow this advice.

Arrival and collection:

Year group	Arrival time	Collection time	Gate
Nursery	8.45am 12.25pm	11.45am 3.25pm	Gate to the right of the main gate
Reception	8:50am	3:05pm	Gate to right of the main gate
Year 1	8:40am	2:55pm	Gate to the left of the main gate
Year 2	8:45am	3:00pm	Gate to the left of the main gate

Year 3	8:55am	3:10pm	Upper school playground gate.
Year 4	8:50am	3:05pm	Upper school playground gate.
Year 5	8:45am	3:00	Upper school playground gate.
Year 6	8.40am	2.55pm	Upper school playground gate.

We appreciate that these times are not going to suit everybody and that it may mean that some parents are waiting outside for one child. We apologise that we cannot make arrangements based on family groups, our main aim is to keep the numbers entering and leaving the school property at one time to an absolute minimum. We also ask that parents drop off and move away from the gates, retaining a social distance from one another, so that the paths are left clear for our children to come in. The gates will continue to be manned by members of staff so that you know your child can be left at the gate and get to their classroom safely. Younger children will continue to be collected at the gate by teaching assistants from their year group pods.

Although we have not had any definite instructions yet, we have been told that School Street (driving and parking regulations in Fairchildes Ave and the surrounding areas) is likely to start in September, as soon as we are given a start date we will contact you.

There is a great deal of information in this document, but there may still be questions that you would like to ask, in which case feel free to email me at head@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

We also know that directives change on a daily basis, and whilst these are our plans at present, things may change, in which case I will notify you of these changes.

A reminder of our email addresses:

360centre@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk
nursery@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk
reception@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

year1@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

year2@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

year3@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

year4@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

year5@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

year6@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

head@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

jbyers3.306@lgflmail.org

Senco@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

mentors@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

safeguarding@fairchildes.croydon.sch.uk

Can I take this opportunity to thank you so much for supporting us throughout this time. We have had many kind comments and gestures from you, which have really kept us going. I hope that as the lockdown regulations ease, that you will be able to enjoy the summer holidays, and I look forward to welcoming you all back to Fairchildes in September.



Miss Hussey

Head of School