FAQ’s about September reopening of the school

**Is everything going back to normal in September?**

Not everything no. Children will be with their whole class and in school 5 days a week.

**What will be different?**

See lots of the answers below but most notably:

* start and finish times of the school day will be different for each class to ensure that we distance groups as much as possible
* Lunchtimes and playtimes will be within class (or sometimes year group) bubbles.
* For classrooms on the ground floor of school, children will eat their lunch in their classroom.
* Obviously children will have a new teacher in their class and will be in a new classroom!

**What will be the same?**

* Children’s classes will contain the same children
* The timetable of the school day
* Children will need to wear school uniform although we recognise this will not be easy for all families. Please speak to a member of the SLT if you have concerns.

**Will these plans change?**

Possibly, yes. As Coronavirus is a new and unprecedented situation and guidance for schools is constantly updated there may be changes to some of the arrangements. We will communicate any significant changes with you, as and when they should occur.

**Will the children need to wear face masks?**

Current guidance from the government states that face masks are unnecessary in school. Please make sure you wear a facemask if you travel using public transport to school.

**Will there be swimming and PE?**

PE will take place for all classes although this will be outside as much as possible and shared equipment use will be minimised.

Even though the government stated that swimming pools may open from 25th July. We have made the decision to not offer swimming for the autumn term as the logistics in this area are too difficult to manage at the moment. This will be regularly reviewed. Mr Joe will still be with us at Chestnuts.

**What do I do if...**

* **My child  gets sick?**
* **A member of my household gets sick?**
* **The teacher or another child in the year group gets sick?**

We have produced a covid-19 agreement for the school, children and their families to sign. This contains all the information you need to know in line with government guidelines. It is attached to this update.

**Lunches and playtimes**

* **Will there be hot food for lunch again?**

Yes! We are working on a menu that can be eaten in classrooms on the ground floor. Years Nursery, 4,5 and 6 will eat their lunch in the dining hall. It will be cleaned between bubbles.

* **What will lunchtimes and playtimes be like?**

We are working on a rota/timetable for the playgrounds. Lunchtime play will be slightly shorter and staggered to ensure groups do not mix in the playground.

**What’s the best way to prepare my child if they are nervous of returning or struggle to adjust?**

There will be an opportunity for you to share any concerns or feelings your child may have about returning to school with their new class teacher. Children should be reassured that we are doing everything we can to keep them safe. We are very keen to support children in any way so please get in touch with Ms West ([aht@chestnutsprimary.com](mailto:aht@chestnutsprimary.com)) if you think your child needs further support.

**Will there be a breakfast club, after school club, extra- curric activities?**

We are working really hard to come up with a plan on how to get Breakfast club and After school club up and running. We are hoping that these will operate in bubbles and will be in touch shortly to gauge the level of demand.

**Will there be school trips or visitors?**

This is something that we think will change over time but initially we will be focussing on settling the children back into school routines.

**What if there is an outbreak in the school? What if there is another lock down? What if a bubble has to self isolate?**

We have been familiarising children and training staff in the use of google classrooms. We have plans in place to immediately set up remote learning with google classrooms should this happen.