Returning to school
Guide for parents
The school day

The following information outlines the key changes to the school day to allow more children to attend safely.

- Timings
- Travel
- Equipment
- School Uniform
- Packed Lunches
- Wrap-around Care
- Critical Workers and Vulnerable Children
- Online Learning
Timings

The start and finish times of the school day will be staggered to avoid large groups of parents and children gathering near school. To begin with, children will only attend school for two days a week. Your school will provide details on which days your child will be attending, the timings of the new school day and the arrangements for dropping off and collecting children.

School Uniform

Children will not be expected to wear school uniform. We do recommend that you wash any clothes worn at school as frequently as possible.

Travel

The government is advising people to avoid using public transport where possible and especially at peak times. You should walk or cycle to school or come by car if necessary. In line with government guidance, we ask that only one parent drops off and collects children from school.

Useful Links


Equipment

Children must not bring any bags, PE kit or equipment into school. All stationery and resources will be provided.

Packed Lunches

Our schools will only be able to provide packed lunches. You will need to commit to a two week period and our schools can only accept online payments at this time. Children who receive a free school meal will automatically get a packed lunch. Your child can also bring their own if you wish.

Wrap-around Care

Our schools will only be able to provide wrap-around care for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers.

Critical Workers and Vulnerable Children

All of our schools will continue to have provision in place for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers to attend school every day, as they do now.

Online Learning

We will continue to provide the same high quality of education and pastoral support for those children who will be continuing their learning from home.
Keeping our schools safe

We are implementing the following measures in our schools to help keep our pupils and staff safe.

- Hygiene
- Social Distancing
- Signage
- Cleaning
- Visiting School
Hygiene

Children will wash their hands as soon as they arrive at school and before leaving. They will also wash them more frequently throughout the day, such as after break times and before and after eating. There will be additional hand washing stations in each school and children will be supervised to ensure they are washing and drying their hands thoroughly.

Hand sanitisers, tissues and lidded waste bins will be in every classroom. Children will be instructed to use a tissue if they cough or sneeze and to put it in the bin immediately after. All classrooms will be kept well ventilated throughout the day.

Social Distancing

Children will be kept in small groups (bubbles) while in school. The size of these bubble will be determined by the room available in each classroom but will be a maximum of 15 children and 2 members of staff. Most bubbles will be smaller than this. The bubbles will be kept separate at all times, including break and lunch times. Social distancing will be observed by the children and staff within each bubble.

The layout of classrooms has been changed and areas clearly marked where children can and can’t go. Children will not be allowed to use any outdoor play equipment.

Signage

There will be signage in place in all classrooms and corridors reminding children of the importance of good hygiene practices and the need for social distancing.

HELP KEEP YOURSELF AND OTHERS SAFE

- Wash your hands for 20 seconds to kill any germs
- Use a tissue if you cough or sneeze and put it in the bin
- Keep your distance from your friends and teachers

Cleaning

All schools have updated their cleaning regime to include regular daily cleaning of high use areas, such as, table tops, door handles, light switches and railings.

All classrooms will have a supply of cleaning products. Stocks of all cleaning products, cloths, hand sanitisers, soaps, tissues and paper towels will be closely monitored and replenished when necessary.

Enhanced cleaning in all schools will take place on a Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Equipment will be sterilised each evening where appropriate.

Visiting School

No visitors or contractors will be allowed on site unless absolutely necessary or in the case of an emergency. Parents will not be allowed in the school building.
About coronavirus (Covid-19)

Information on the symptoms of coronavirus and the protective measures within our schools.

- Symptoms of Coronavirus
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Children
- What if a child shows coronavirus like symptoms at school?
- Coronavirus Testing
Symptoms of Coronavirus

The symptoms of coronavirus (Covid-19) are usually mild, but some people can become very unwell. The main symptoms are:

- high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you’ve noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child or anyone within the same household has these symptoms, they must not come into school.

For more information, please visit: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/#symptoms

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Children

If your child is classed as clinically extremely vulnerable due to a pre-existing medical condition and has been advised to shield, we do not expect them to return to school and they should continue their learning from home. If your child is clinically vulnerable making them more at risk, parents should seek medical advice. If a parent or someone in the same household is shielding, children should only attend school if they can understand and follow social distancing guidance. This may not be possible for very young children who should be kept at home if this is the case.

What if a child shows coronavirus like symptoms at school?

We have procedures in place for dealing with potential coronavirus cases within our schools. Parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child immediately.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Our staff will have access to PPE, if required, when dealing with a first aid or intimate care related situation. The relevant members of staff will be trained in the correct use and disposal of PPE.

Coronavirus Testing

All staff, pupils and family members in the same household will be eligible for testing if they develop coronavirus symptoms. For more information on testing, please visit: www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested
There will be a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) on duty in our schools at all times. If you are concerned about a child’s welfare please contact your child’s school and ask to speak to the DSL.

If you think that a child or young person is being abused or neglected call the Children's Front Door on 01904 551900 or email childrensfrontdoor@york.gov.uk.

Outside office hours, at weekends and on public holidays contact the emergency duty team on 01609 780780.