

Deal Parochial Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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Vision Statement

Our School is built on the teachings of the Bible and inspired by The Gospel Values of Faith, Hope and Love.
Our Christian ethos is upheld by respecting humanity fostered through our community
that is welcoming, inclusive and forgiving.
Together we flourish through courageous learning, friendships and generosity.

Wednesday 15th July 2020

Dear Families

It seems bonkers that we are thinking about September – where has this year gone?

Over the past week, staff have been working together here at DP planning and considering the most recent guidance from the DfE on re opening schools for everybody – AT LAST!

The message is clear that whilst lockdown restrictions are currently being relaxed there are still many measures that we need to take in order to keep ourselves and our communities safe from the spread of this awful pandemic. We are working out the safest and most manageable procedures, that meet the needs of our school.

So whilst we are doing our best to come up with solutions and plans, if there is something that does not work for you, please contact us and we can put our thinking caps on to try and resolve any specific challenges. Like I have said before – we are all in this together and we're always here to help.

Reopening September 2020

As I am sure you will be aware, all children are expected to return to school in September full time. Further details regarding the DfE guidance on schools reopening can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

To maintain keeping everybody safe we ask that all families play their part to prevent infection: This includes:-

- 1) Children and/or someone in their household who is unwell, or displays symptoms should not attend school
- 2) Children should clean hands thoroughly more often than usual
- 3) Children should follow the good hygiene rules: 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- 4) The school will continue to undertake enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often.
- 5) The school will minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible
- 6) Staff will, where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) especially when supporting suspected cases within school.

Controls the school will put in place to respond to any infection:

The school will engage with the NHS Test and Trace Process

The school will manage confirmed cases of coronavirus amongst the school community

The school will contact Public Health England and will contain any outbreak by following their advice.

I would like to reassure parents and carers that the Public Health England Services for Schools have been very quick to respond to calls and very supportive in dealing with queries.

Groups

Children will be kept in a 'Bubble' of 30 in their own year groups, and unfortunately they cannot interact with the other 'Bubbles'. In the classrooms our pupils will be sat side by side, rather than facing each other.



Breaks/Lunch

Classes/Bubbles will have break times at staggered times during the day and will be allocated a zone to play in. Lunchtime will be between 12.00 – 13.00 hrs. As usual, hot dinners will be provided. Children in EYFS, Yr 1 & Yr 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals, that the government provides funding towards. Please keep your eyes on our web site and newsletter to find out the weekly menus from Whole School Meals.

In order to keep the bubbles safe, the EYFS will eat in the school hall, however all the other bubble groups will eat in their classrooms.

All children in Years 1 & 2 & KS2 may order a hot meal which will be eaten in the class room within their bubble. Children who do not wish to have a hot school dinner will need to bring a packed lunch to be eaten in the classroom. Staff will clean classrooms thoroughly after lunch sittings in time for afternoon school to commence.

Breakfast Club

We are pleased to be able to confirm that we can offer a breakfast club for our working families.

Ms Pettitt will re-open this valuable provision. We can take up to 30 pupils, however, **please note that it is now essential to pre book places a week in advance.** Please email Ms Pettitt directly as she is the breakfast club co-ordinator, pettittn@deal-parochial.kent.sch.uk.

The club will take place in the school hall as usual. We ask that at drop off time parents supervise their child in the EAC whilst they wash their hands before coming into the hall.

Children can then enter the hall through the usual fire door that will open at 8am.

Parents are asked not to enter the school hall. If you have any messages for staff, please write these on paper or e-mail through to the school.

Children will need to sit at an allocated bubble table and the breakfast will be served at the table rather than the usual self-service.

There will be some limited play equipment available because we cannot cross contaminate the equipment across the bubbles and Ms Pettitt will do her best to engage the children and ensure they are happy and safe. Ms Pettitt will then clean the equipment and ensure that it is safe for the next group.

It will open at the usual time of 08.00 am and the children will go into class at 08.30 am.

The charge is £2.60 per pupil. Please note that we are now operating a cashless payment system. Details of how to pay for breakfast club on our school website under the Breakfast Club Tab. We will constantly review, improve and update the arrangements as necessary and positive feedback is appreciated.

School Uniform

All children will be expected to wear full school uniform including school shoes (not trainers) on return to school.

Pencil cases (which should be small enough to fit in your child's desk tray) will be allowed, although children will not be allowed to share the contents of their pencil cases.

Water bottles will be required as the water fountains will remain disabled.

PE – Children may wear their PE kit to school on the days they have PE. This will limit the need to change clothing at school. Your class teacher will inform you which day they need to come in PE kit. Please note that we will not be doing any indoor PE as we are unable to use the hall at this time.

PLEASE PUT YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON EVERY ITEM OF CLOTHING– THANK YOU

Arrivals/Collection for September 2020

In order to ensure that we don't have large congregations of adults and students, we have to stagger our arrival and dismissal times. Please look at the times below and be as prompt as you are able. We ask that you drop and pick up as swiftly as possible to ensure the safety of the whole school community.

Please note that parents are not able to come through the gate to the class at the beginning of the day. If there are any messages, please contact the office (via phone or email) who will pass them onto the relevant teachers.



Family arrival times Alphabetical order (Surname)	Arrival Time KS1 Gate (Year R, 1 & 2) KS2 gate (Year 3,4,5& 6)	Collection Time
A - F	0830	1500
G - P	0845	1510
R - Z	0900	1520

What to do if you have symptoms

In the event of you or your child or a member of staff displaying symptoms, they will need to:

- book a test. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and will be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents/carers if using a home testing kit
- provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
- self-isolate if they have been in close contact with someone who develops coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test. Tests can be booked online through the [NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website](#), or ordered by telephone via NHS 119.

Please inform the school immediately of the results of a test:

- if someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.
- if someone tests positive, they should follow the '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 7 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 7-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

Attendance

School attendance will be **mandatory** again from the beginning of the autumn term. This means that sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct can be issued for poor attendance. This does not apply to children who are shielding or self-isolating. However, it is expected that the majority of pupils will be able to return. For further guidance see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

If you have any particular issues please do not hesitate to contact the school office. Mrs Lawton is our attendance officer and can offer support and guidance. We want to avoid any misunderstandings or formalities whilst we all get used to the new systems under the back drop of the continuing pandemic. If you are worried please contact us.

Home Learning

A few children will continue to shield due to pre-existing health requirements and unfortunately will need to carry out their education at home. We are still here to help and work with families. Please let us know what is working for you guys and how we can support you in all ways so that your child is happy and flourishing. We will try to link their learning to their class mates learning in class.



Curriculum

We have bought in a superb back to school literacy story pack that the whole school is undertaking for the first few weeks of term 1. The story is called "The Journey", by Aaron Becker. The picture book takes a young person on an imaginative journey, through many lands meeting fantastic creatures. It is suitable to capture the interest of every age and will be used by every year group. The leading Kent Literacy consultant has provided guidance on this and our school has purchased the planning that supports the curriculum for every year group taking into consideration the over learning and reinforcement that we expect to offer many pupils. We will do this sensitively and adapt learning to individuals.

We understand that many children will be feeling apprehensive and often just simply tired!

We expect some children will have lost some of the learning tools of concentration, or learning stamina that we build up.

So this back to school push will take courage, trust, understanding, respect and lots of kindness. These are all our Christian values and they drive our purpose for all our community of learners. We may also need your forgiveness if we get it wrong – but rest assured that we will listen to you and want to get it right!

Modifications to the curriculum may be needed at the start of the year, to enable children to 'catch-up' and so teaching time will prioritise addressing significant gaps in pupils' knowledge. Initially there will be a greater emphasis on

- Assessing where the children are
- Teaching areas of the curriculum in English & Maths where children have gaps in their learning
- PSHE and mental well being
- Enrichment using all the foundation subjects.

Whole school collective worships will take place in each class bubble, as we are currently carrying out. I am reviewing the provision for singing - but recorders and other music lessons can certainly restart with Mr Greenhalgh in September.

It may be that some parents are feeling anxious about their child returning to school, and we would like to reassure you that we will work with you to support your child's return. The overwhelming response from families is that their children have been happy to return and have enjoyed being back, surrounded by their friends and teachers.

This year has been a test for us all. I have learnt so many new skills and have felt challenged by uncertain times. Nevertheless, I have never felt discouraged because the kindness, generosity and patience of our school community has been whole heartedly enabling.

Thank you. I hope that this partnership continues and that the school builds from strength to strength with new opportunities and new hope guided by our school vision for everyone.

A moment to reflect: Prayer - by The Church of England, Canterbury Diocese

Trinity of love, you embrace us in our
needfulness;
You stand with us as we face difficulties and
trials;
You dance with us into the unknown.
Strengthen our resolve to follow your steps,
Keep our hearts open to love and joy,
As we journey together in hope.
Amen.

Keep safe and well
Kind regards
Justine Brown

