



Chilwell Croft Academy

All Different, All Equal, All Achieving

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Equitas Academies Trust

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we finish the end of the academic year, I want to begin by thanking all parents, children and staff for how the school community has worked together over the past few months. It has probably been the greatest challenge that any of us have faced as school staff and I am very proud of how we have all responded to this situation as a school community.

The good news is that Chilwell Croft Academy will be reopening to most children from Friday 4th September. Year 6 will be asked to come back on Thursday 3rd September 2020 so they have time to settle in and we can test our new procedures, a separate communication will go out to the parents of children in that year group. Full school reopening is vital for our children's education and wellbeing and is something that we know will be welcomed across the school community.

Following the publication of the Department for Education (DFE) guidance for reopening schools, we are now finalising risk assessments so that we can reopen for everyone in line with the government's advice. Key to this will be ensuring that everyone in school follows excellent hygiene practices and that we are careful about the number of different people that children come into contact with at the school.

This will mean a number of important changes to how the school runs next term. In particular:

- When children are in school they will remain in their bubble. We will have four bubbles (Reception, Year 1 / 2, Year 3 / 4 and Year 5 / 6). We will avoid mixing these bubbles at all times.
- To minimise the interaction between bubbles, we are moving to staggered start times, breaks and lunchtimes. We will confirm all these timings and procedures in a letter in September but it will be vital that you bring your child in at the correct time in order to avoid crossover. If you have more than one child, you will need to wait on the playground with them until it is their time to enter school.
- A video will be added to the website to show parents and children the procedures for the start and end of the school day and the times the different years will be allowed into school. A separate video will come from class teachers showing the routine within the classrooms.
- All areas of the school will receive more frequent cleaning and there will be hand sanitisers in all classrooms and entrances.
- There will be no breakfast club for the first term, but toast will be given out in class.
- There will be no after school clubs for at least the first half term. If this changes we will notify parents by further letter.

By making these changes, we will be able to follow the government guidance to ensure students are safe within the school. Children will be able to travel to and from school as normal but where possible they need to practise social distancing. If they travel by public transport a mask will be required.

We know that all children will require some degree of catch up after the disruption of the past few months. Therefore, it is essential every student attends every day from the beginning of term so that we can quickly return to normal curriculum content. Attendance will be required at school and will be monitored as it has been in the past. Unauthorised absence will be treated as such and followed up accordingly.

The government have also set out what will happen if any child or member of staff displays symptoms of COVID-19. Firstly, it is essential that everyone – children, parents and staff continue to follow the NHS guidance and that they do not come into school if they are experiencing any symptoms. Therefore, we would ask every parent to keep any child displaying symptoms of COVID-19 at home and immediately inform the school. Likewise, if any member of your household tests positive for COVID-19, please keep your child at home and inform us as soon as possible.

If a child becomes unwell at school with a high fever, new continuous cough or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell, they will be sent home. We will arrange for them to be looked after safely, separately from others, until they can be collected. If this occurs, they will be expected to self-isolate for a least 7 days and arrange to have a COVID-19 test.

Should we experience a confirmed case of COVID-19 within our school community, we will work closely with our local health protection team to ensure the situation is managed quickly and effectively. Using NHS Test and Trace data, they will advise us on what next steps we will need to take as a school. We will be putting in place stringent control measures as per the DfE's guidance in order to minimise the need for larger groups of children to self-isolate should there be a positive case within school.

In the event of any large number of children having to self-isolate or a local lockdown that means we are required to close the school, we will immediately revert to the online learning that has been working well this term. We very much hope that we do not need to return to any form of lockdown but, if we do, we are confident that we will be able to continue with all children learning from home.

Thank you for your patience and understanding over the past few months. Everyone at Chilwell Croft Academy is looking forward to welcoming back all of our children. We know that there is a great deal to do and that the year ahead may still be subject to some interruptions; however, we are entirely focused on making sure that every day, every child at the school continues to learn and thrive.

I hope you have a restful and enjoyable Summer holidays.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mr. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a simple horizontal line.

Andy Murphy
Acting Headteacher