



Chilwell Croft Academy

All Different, All Equal, All Achieving

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Equitas Academies Trust

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are safe, have had a good break and are looking forward to your children returning to Chilwell Croft Academy next week. I am writing to reassure you about the procedures we have put in place to ensure a safe return to school but also to ask you to start talking to your children about returning and making them feel comfortable. Sending your children back to school is not only vital for their education and wellbeing, the government have outlined that it is a legal responsibility for all parents.

Chilwell Croft Academy will be reopening to Year 6 children on Thursday 3rd September 2020 and all other children on Friday 4th September (apart from those in EYFS who have received separate letters). We have created a short video, which explains all the new routines for dropping off and collecting children from school. This can be found on our website www.chilwellcroftacademy.com and Twitter account @chilwellcroft.

Key Information

- Children and staff in school will be placed into bubbles. 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. Although the gates will open at 8:25 for parents, children will only be allowed to come through their door when the bell rings. We appreciate this will mean you have to wait on the playground if you have more than one child and so we appreciate your patience. Staff will be on duty to advise which doors to enter through.

Year Group	Time
Year 4 & 6	8:30
Year 3 & 5	8:40
Year R, 1 & 2	8:50

- Whilst waiting on the playground at the beginning and end of day, we strongly advise parents to wear face masks or coverings whilst maintaining social distance between families. The playground equipment will be closed throughout this period.
- Current guidance is that primary- aged children are not to wear face masks in school. If they wear them travelling to school, they are to be left with a parent or carer before the child enters the building.
- Everyone in school will be expected to follow excellent hygiene practices. We have hand sanitizers on every external door and in every classroom. Please encourage your children to

wash their hands when leaving home and when arriving back home. All areas of the school will receive more frequent cleaning.

- There will be no breakfast club for the first term at least, 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.
- PE Days. In order to reduce changing and extra clothes being brought into school, we ask that your children wear their PE kit into school on the days they have PE. They are not required to wear uniform on these days. This will start in week commencing 7th September.

Year Group	PE Days
1	Tuesday and Thursday
2	Monday and Wednesday
3	Tuesday
4	Monday
5	Friday
6	Thursday

- Water Bottles. We will not be able to provide water bottles to children this term. Please send your child with a labelled water bottle that they can have whilst in school, this will need to be brought in and taken home each day.
- Bags. All children will be expected to bring a reading bag into school each day and a lunchbox if required. Please do not bring other bags into school with trainers (children will not be allowed to change into trainers at lunchtimes), pencils cases etc. All stationery will be provided.

By making these changes, we will be able to follow the government guidance to ensure students are safe within the school, although nowhere is risk free. 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 take a COVID-19 test and self-isolate until results are received..

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 worked well last year. 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, we will continue to keep you updated about any changes to the information listed above. Please take time to download the MyEd app on your smart phone as this will be our main form of communication and payment in the coming 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.

If you have any questions or queries before returning, as always please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 0121 464 3402 or enquiry @chilwellcroftacademy.com.

See you next week.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mr. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping underline that extends across the width of the text.

Andy Murphy
Acting Headteacher