



## Returning to ACE in September: 'Everything you need to know' guide

### What are the timings of the school day?

We are required to stagger the timings of arrival for different groups, so our timings as we begin in September will be as follows:

Year group	Time of School day
Reception (from when they start full time on 17/9/20; further updated information of timings for reception prior to this date will be sent to parents separately)	8.30am – 2.40pm
Years 1-2	8.40am – 2.50pm
Years 3-4	8.50am – 3.05pm
Years 5-6	9am – 3.20pm

Please arrive at school promptly at the given time to help us with this staggering. All classes up to Year 4, except Giraffes, will enter directly through their classroom door. Giraffes will enter through the white door next to Koala classroom. Years 5 and 6 will enter through the corridor by the stairs as normal.

The school will offer a 'soft' start in the morning to enable our Ashford families of more than 2 children to 'drop off' a younger or older sibling. For example, if you have children in Year 2 and Year 5, the older sibling can come in and go directly to their classroom to await the arrival of the rest of their year group. Sadly, we cannot offer these arrangements at the end of the day, but we will keep all of these arrangements and timings under constant review.

### What does my child need to bring to school?

Children need to wear full uniform according to our policy. Please make sure this is clean and well-kept. Children should have their bag or book bag, PE kit, water bottle and fruit. Children in Years 3-6 need to bring in a basic pencil case equipped with a pencil, small ruler, rubber and a few coloured pencils. Children are not to bring in other items from home. Year 5 and 6 children who have privilege cards are permitted to carry mobile phones but these will be handed in to staff in class as usual so that they can be kept securely on site.

Face coverings are not recommended in government guidance to be worn in schools. Children arriving at school wearing a face covering should be reminded not to touch their face during use or when removing. Disposable face covering should immediately be placed in a lidded bin. Reusable face coverings should be placed in a plastic bag to take home. Children will need to wash their hands after removing any face covering.

### **What will the school day be like?**

Children will spend each day largely in their own separate year group hubs. Classrooms will look similar to before, but a key difference will be the arrangement of tables, with children often sitting side by side, facing forwards, for their learning. Some learning activities, such as PE, will include collaborative learning activities. Where circumstances allow, staff will be maintaining distance from children and each other, but we recognise that this is not always possible in teaching young children.

During each day collective worship will be held in classrooms and where possible we will utilise the outdoors for lessons like PE.

In the first week of term, we will ensure all children, especially those who have not been in school since March, are aware of all our extra school rules around keeping ourselves safe, such as 'catch it, bin it, kill it;' approach and frequent hand washing.

Children's playtimes and lunchtimes will be in separate hubs, though two hubs may use different zones of the playground at the same time.

### **What will the lunch arrangements be?**

During this term, children have eaten lunch in classrooms, but from September, children will again have their lunch in the hall.

Lunch will be staggered from late morning to early afternoon to enable all children to eat their lunches in their separate year group hubs, with two hubs at a time using different parts of the hall. Children will sit side by side, but not opposite each other, and will not be allowed to move around the dining hall.

Our caterers will be serving packed lunches for the 6 days of term, with hot meals beginning on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Please order school lunches in the same way as before.

### **What will children be learning?**

Children will continue to have a broad and balanced curriculum at school, and all subjects will therefore be taught. We may, however, build in extra English and maths lessons in the first half of term, and block some of our other subjects later on in the Autumn term, to support children in catching up on lost learning.

Additionally, we will be building in during the first days and weeks additional learning and team building activities to 'reconnect' with the children and build a sense of togetherness again.

We will share more curriculum information with you about the year ahead in September.

### **Will there be home learning?**

Yes, home learning will be part of our weekly menu of learning, given out weekly, as before lockdown with a selection of maths, English, spelling and thematic learning activities. Children will also be bringing book-banded books home as usual for regular home reading practice.

### **What if my child is ill?**

It is important your child is in school everyday so that they miss as little education as possible, especially after this recent period of time. However, if your child is unwell, or displaying possible COVID19 symptoms, please do not bring them in and ensure you book a test for them.

If your child becomes unwell in school, then we will need to contact you, so they can be taken home swiftly. **It is important that you are contactable at all times.** Children with symptoms will be isolated from other pupils, ready to be collected.

### **What if there is a confirmed case of COVID19?**

If there is a confirmed case of COVID19, schools are required to liaise with local health protection team for guidance on next steps and advice on which children or groups may need to be sent home, and this will be communicated as swiftly as possible. We will not share any names or details of people with COVID19.

### **How can I contact the school?**

Our school office will be in full operation in opening hours to receive calls, and the info@ email address is the best one to use; this is checked regularly on school days.

Meetings with school staff can only be arranged by appointment in advance. Our usual beginning of the year 'Meet the Teacher' events are likely to be in the form of video presentations, and we will give more detail on this nearer the time. We do also intend to hold parent consultation evenings earlier than usual in the term and we will let you know more detail about this in September.

### **Will clubs or after school care be happening?**

Our extra-curricular clubs will not yet be resuming, to avoid mixing of separate year group hubs. We will let you know when this changes.

OSCAHS, who provide before and after school care on our site, are considering their provision for September; please contact them directly.

**Please note that all the detail contained within this leaflet will be subject to continual review and change in the light of changing circumstances and future government guidance.**