

Frequently Asked Questions

This document is accurate at the time of writing, 21.5.20, and is subject to change.

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| <p>Is Emmanuel re-opening on 1st June?</p> | <p>School is open on 1st June for key workers only. The school is closed for INSET for the rest of the school so that staff can be fully inducted on the new health and safety procedures.</p> <p>From 2nd June, school is open for key workers daily and Year 6 (<i>closed for Y6 each Thursday</i>).</p> <p>From 8th June, the school is open for key workers daily, Year 6 (<i>closed for Y6 each Thursday</i>) and Reception (<i>closed for Reception each Friday</i>).</p> <p>At this point in time, we are unaware of any change in the government's stance, which aims for schools to be partially open <i>from</i> 1st June. Therefore, we have continued with our planning; we need to make sure we are prepared and that our parents are informed. However, should there be any change in position, whilst the school is closed for half-term, we will let you know.</p> |
| <p>Do I have to send my child, who is eligible to return, back to school?</p> | <p>The government has informed us that no parent will be fined if they keep their child away from school. We understand that some parents are unsure or worried about sending their children back to school. By providing information about our plans and procedures in this FAQ, we hope this will help parents to make informed decisions, knowing that we have the safety and welfare of our children at the core of all our arrangements.</p> |
| <p>I have chosen not to send my eligible child back to school, will I still get home learning?</p> | <p>No. All staff that are able to return to work are needed to open for the key worker and specified year groups or to provide home learning for the year groups not able to attend (N, Y1-Y5). Therefore, children in Reception and Year 6 who are remaining at home need to access other learning resources such as those detailed on our school website.</p> <p>https://www.emmanuel.camden.sch.uk/websites/</p> <p><i>As Reception is closed the week beginning 1st June, a home learning pack will be provided for that week only.</i></p> |
| <p>If I said 'no' or I was 'undecided' in the survey about my child returning to school, can they still attend?</p> | <p>Yes.</p> |
| <p>Will social distancing apply?</p> | <p>The government have stated that they <i>'know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. In deciding to bring more children back to early years and schools, we are taking this into account.'</i></p> <p>They have asked schools to work through a hierarchy of measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms</i> • <i>frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices</i> • <i>regular cleaning of settings</i> • <i>minimising contact and mixing</i> <p>Therefore, where possible, social distancing will be encouraged in school. However, we cannot guarantee that children and staff will be 2m away from each other.</p> |

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| | <p>Children will be arranged in 'bubble groups' with 2/3 adults per group. There will be a maximum of 15 pupils per group. One group will be called Alpha Bubble and the other Omega Bubble.</p> |
| <p>How will the school enable children to avoid contact with anyone with symptoms?</p> | <p>If anyone in school becomes unwell with: <i>a new, continuous cough or</i> <i>a high temperature or</i> <i>has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)</i> They will be sent home and advised to follow the COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance. We need to make sure we have your latest contact details - please notify us of any changes for all eligible children by 1st June 2020.</p> <p>The child will await collection in 'The Bubble Room' in Omega and in the 'PPA Room' upstairs in Alpha, where they will be isolated behind a closed door with an appropriate adult. A window will be opened for ventilation. PPE (an apron, paper mask and gloves) will be worn by the member of staff caring for the child while they await collection. <i>In an emergency, we will call 999 if a child is seriously ill or injured.</i></p> <p>Children should then take a test (<i>see 'Will my child have access to a test?'</i>) and self-isolate, with the household, while you await the results.</p> <p>Where the child tests negative, they can return to school and the other household members can end their self-isolation.</p> |
| <p>What happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus at Emmanuel?</p> | <p>Where a child or staff member tests positive, they, along with the children and staff in their bubble group, will be sent home. The children and staff in that bubble group will then self-isolate for 14 days.</p> <p>The other household members of the wider bubble group do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member subsequently develops symptoms.</p> |
| <p>Will my child have access to a test?</p> | <p>Yes. To access testing, parents should use the 111 online coronavirus service if their child is 5 or over. Parents need to call 111 if their child is aged under 5.</p> |
| <p>How will the school encourage frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices?</p> | <p>We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sufficient handwashing facilities and products available in classrooms and toilets • designated times throughout the day when children will wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds and will dry them thoroughly • hand sanitising at the start and end of each day, the start and end of each lesson, at the start and end of each playtime and lunchtime and after sneezing or coughing • staff who will encourage children not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose and to encourage the use of a tissue or elbow to cough or sneeze into • lidded bins for tissue waste and staff and posters to promote 'catch it, bin it, kill it' • staff that will practise these habits through games, songs and repetition • staff that will help children who have trouble cleaning their hands independently • a schedule of tasks for Mr Haskins (Site Service Officer) to action throughout the day, including the regular cleaning and emptying of bins • used spaces in school that can be well ventilated using natural ventilation (opening windows and doors) or ventilation units, we will prop doors open, where safe to do so to limit the use of door handles and aid ventilation • encouraged parents to wash/change uniform following a day in school • planned to use any outdoor space for education when possible |

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| <p>How will the school ensure regular cleaning?</p> | <p>We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • staff cleaning surfaces that children/adults are touching, such as desks, chairs, doors, sinks, toilets, light switches, bannisters, telephones, photocopying machines etc. more regularly than normal • staff disinfecting resources throughout the day, particularly in early years • specific playground resources which have been bagged for each bubble group to use, which will not be shared and will be cleaned after each break • a team of cleaners who will clean the school environment thoroughly at the end of each day |
| <p>How will the school minimise contact and mixing?</p> | <p>We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • separate bubble groups of up to 15 children with the same designated adults • a one-way circulation system for entry and exit from both school sites • a one way system using the two stairwells in Omega • two entrances in Alpha for each bubble group • staggered start and end times to the school day • staggered break times and lunch times • separate areas for bubble groups to eat their lunch • separate toilets for each bubble group to use and we will limit the number of children using the facilities at one time, where possible • staggered the use of staff rooms and offices to limit occupancy • limited the amount of shared resources • encouraged parents and children to walk to school where possible |
| <p>What is the procedure for dropping off and collecting children?</p> | <p>Each bubble group has their own designated start and finish times so that we can minimise contact and mixing. You have been informed of your child's start and end time in the letter.</p> <p>Parents must adhere to these times strictly and be mindful that they should not drop their child off early or be late.</p> <p>Alpha (Reception): Drop off at the Alpha building at your designated time. Please stand on the 2m markings along the fence. When you get to the gate, a member of staff will greet you with hand sanitiser and your child will walk into their classroom. You will not be able to enter the site. <i>If your child is upset and needs comforting, we ask that you step away, being mindful of social distancing, to allow other parents to drop off their child.</i></p> <p>Omega (Key worker & Year 6): Drop off at the Omega building at your designated time. Please stand on the 2m markings along the fence, taking note of the direction arrows. When you get to the gate, a member of staff will greet you with hand sanitiser and your child will walk into their classroom. You will not be able to enter the site. Please walk back up the pathway against the wall following the direction arrows and keeping the 2m distance. <i>If your child is upset and needs comforting, we ask that you step away being mindful of social distancing, to allow other parents to drop off their child.</i></p> |
| <p>How should we travel to school?</p> | <p>We encourage parents and children to walk to school where possible. Please do not bring bikes or scooters as they cannot be left on school premises during this period.</p> <p>For those that cannot parents can follow the Coronavirus (COVID-19): safer travel guidance for passengers when planning their travel to school.</p> |
| <p>Who can drop off and collect my child?</p> | <p>Only one adult can bring your child to school and collect them. <i>If you have a young children or pram that is permitted.</i></p> <p>It will NOT be possible for parents to gather in the playground or to enter the building.</p> |

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| Will you be taking the temperature of children at the start of each day? | No. Advice states that testing of an individual's temperature is not a reliable method for identifying coronavirus. If your child develops symptoms, you must follow the advice set in ' <i>How will the school enable children to avoid contact with anyone with symptoms?</i> ' above. |
| Will staff be wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)? | The wearing of PPE in school is not recommended. PPE will be worn by staff when providing intimate care needs for identified children and if a child becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus. |
| Can my child wear PPE? | As above, government guidance does not recommend this. |
| What will the classroom look like? | For key worker groups and Year 6, classrooms will be set up so that children have their own desk and use designated resources. For the Reception classrooms, both rooms in the Alpha Building will be used for each bubble group. They will be separated and will not mix with each other. Resources will be kept to a bubble group but children in the group will be able to share. The resources will be disinfected regularly throughout the day Furniture and resources have been removed from classrooms so they will look very different from previously. All soft furnishing and any resources that cannot be disinfected have been removed e.g. rugs, cushions, home corner, bookshelves, books, teddy bears/dolls. |
| What should my child bring to school? | The only items children can bring to school are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>P.E kit on day 1 (this must be left in school)</i> • <i>water bottle (water fountains will not be in use)</i> • <i>packed lunch (if you have signed up for packed lunches)</i> • <i>individually wrapped snack (snacks will not be provided)</i> • <i>hand sanitiser if you wish, although there will be soap and hand sanitiser available in school. This cannot leave school once brought in.</i> <i>They cannot take any work or other items home with them.</i> |
| What should my child wear? | Children should wear their normal uniform. The washing of clothes after a day in school is strongly advised. |
| Will Breakfast Club and before and after school clubs run? | No. We cannot run these clubs due to the need to minimising contact and mixing of children and adult in school. Refunds will be given and we ask that parents bear with us as the school office process these. |
| How can I communicate with the school or my child's teacher? | Parents are not permitted to enter the school building. Therefore, we ask that you email or telephone the school office. |
| What do I do if my child is sick (not coronavirus related)? | The same protocol applies. Parent must telephone or email the school office clearly stating the reasons. We cannot accept 'unwell'. If you have a medical form, we ask that you email this to the school office. If you need to hand medicine to school, we ask that you wrap it in a plastic bag with details of your child's name. |
| What will happen at playtime? | There will be staggered play times for each bubble group. The same adults will lead this. Bubble groups will not be able to mix with each other. There will be one bubble group in the MUGA and one bubble group in the playground. As stated previously, it will not be possible to socially distance at all times. We also do not want to negatively impact our children's mental health and well-being so they will still be able to play. |
| Will my child be provided with lunch? | School lunches will be a packed lunch. Hot meals will not be provided. This is due to restrictions with the hall timetabling, as well as health and safety issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child is in Reception, Year 1 (key worker), Year 2 (key worker) you are still entitled to a 'universal free school meal'. The school will provide your child with a packed lunch. This will be a sandwich, piece of fruit and bottle of water. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, the same will apply and your child will be provided with a packed lunch as above. • If you pay for school lunches, the same will apply and your child will be provided with a packed lunch as above. • If your child normally brings in a packed lunch then they will continue to do so. |
| What will happen at lunchtime? | <p>Children will remain in their bubble groups at all times. They will have lunch in their bubble group, outside where possible and if not, inside in their classroom at their desks.</p> <p>Children will get time to play outside with their bubble (<i>see 'What will happen at playtime?'</i>)</p> |
| How will you support my child to transition back into school with all the differences they will experience? | <p>Our staff have been preparing lessons and activities to support the children's transition back into school. The social story provided for you to use at home, will start this process. It will be a journey and our dedicated staff will work hard to ensure the children have a happy experience in school, share their experiences of being at home and allow them to explore their feelings. This is of vital importance to us and we will not be rushing into structured formal lessons immediately as we believe this will be detrimental to our children's well-being. If you have particular concerns, please email Mrs Watkins at wellbeing@emmanuel.camden.sch.uk</p> |
| What will the children do in school? | <p>Key worker groups will continue to access the home learning provided by their class teacher and take part in arts & crafts and sporting activities.</p> <p>Children returning to Reception and Year 6 will continue their education as normal, ensuring quality time is spent on their well-being. Time will be spent assessing the children to identify and gaps in learning and the teachers will plan accordingly. Year 6 will have lessons to support them in the transition from primary to secondary school also.</p> |
| Will the children go on any trips? | <p>No. Trips or visits, including church, will not take place. For Year 6, no decision has been made regarding School Journey incase restrictions are lifted in the future. Once a decision has to be made we will contact you directly. We understand this is cause of worry for our Year 6 pupils and Miss McManus will address this on their return.</p> |
| Can my child bring a snack? | <p>Yes, they can. The school will not be providing any snacks.</p> |
| Can my child bring a hand sanitiser? | <p>Yes, they can but it needs to be left in school. Hand sanitiser will be available in school too.</p> |
| Can my child bring a book? | <p>No. Children will be provided with a reading book in school and they will keep that book in their individual pack.</p> |
| Should my child bring their PE kit? | <p>Yes on day one and it needs to be left in school. They will have PE lessons and will need to change into their PE kits.</p> |
| Can my child bring a pencil case? | <p>No, your child cannot bring a pencil case from home. We will provide each child with their own personal pack that will include the necessary stationary.</p> |
| Can my child bring a water bottle? | <p>Yes, they need to. The children will not be able to use school water fountains.</p> |

We know that the volume of information in this letter may feel overwhelming. We hope you appreciate the need to share our plans so you have the knowledge that everything that can be done, will be done. We are very much looking forward to seeing you and your children again.

Kind regards,

Miss Fitzsimmons