



Old Park School
September 2020 Reintegration
Parent and Carer FAQs

These FAQs should be read in conjunction with the ‘OPS Covid 19 Risk Assessment – September Reopening’ document.

School Reopening	
Question 1. Will school be fully open from 3 rd September 2020?	School will reopen to all year groups from 3 rd September 2020. Parents of children who are starting at Old Park have been contacted with a start date. There are a small number of children who require Aerosol Generating Procedures. We are currently working with the Local Authority and Health colleagues to plan for their return.
Question 2. Will my child be in a ‘bubble’?	School will be operating two extended ‘bubble’ groups. Primary bubble consisting of Lower and Middle Phase (plus Leopard class) and Secondary bubble consisting of Upper and 14-19 phase. Bubble groups have been decided on the location of classrooms within school.
Question 3. Does my child have to return to school?	The government has said that all children should return to school fulltime in September. However, it is acknowledged that for some, a phased return will be needed. Where parents would like this to be considered they should email the Headteacher at office1@old-park.dudley.sch.uk
Whole School Safety Measures	
Question 4. Can you guarantee my child will not come into contact with someone with Covid19 whilst at school?	No. School has written a comprehensive whole school risk assessment which identifies ways that we will attempt to minimise the risk of cross-infection. We will be operating in ‘bubble’ groups to minimise the number of people each individual comes into contact with.
Question 5. Can you guarantee social distancing within school?	No. Many of our pupils often require some element of physical support during their time at school – however, control measures are in place to reduce this where possible.
Question 6. Will all staff be tested for Covid19 before working in school?	No. Covid19 testing is only available to those who are displaying known symptoms.
Question 7. Will staff be wearing PPE? Can my child wear a mask?	Yes. All staff will be wearing a face shield or mask in situations where social distancing cannot fully be maintained e.g. in the classroom. Full PPE will be worn for certain tasks e.g. toileting, feeding. Masks only prevent the spread of infection if worn correctly. We are of the view that children should not wear masks in school.
Question 8. Will visitors be allowed in school including parents?	Any visitors in school will be by appointment only. School will be minimising face to face contact. Parents will not be allowed into school unless by prior agreement of the Headteacher. Any visitors will be required to provide contact details as part of the track and trace system.

Question 9. My child is displaying symptoms. Can they come to school?	No. Anyone displaying the following symptoms should remain at home – new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). Your child should remain at home and self-isolate for 7 days. Fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. Everyone over the age of 5 will now have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus and should get tested in this situation.
Question 10. What happens if my child starts to display symptoms whilst at school? What will happen if a member of staff who is supporting my child starts to display symptoms?	If your child starts to display symptoms at school, then they will be taken to one of the isolation rooms by a member of staff from their bubble. They will be met by a first aider and a member of SMT who will be in full PPE. Parents will be expected to collect their child immediately and should ensure that they have provided school with up to date emergency contact details. The school nurse will support parents to arrange a test for their child. If a member of staff who is supporting your child starts to display symptoms, then they will be directed to go home and arrange a Covid19 test. School will seek advice from Public Health England if this occurs.
Question 11. How will hand washing be managed in school?	All staff and children in school will be expected to wash their hands regularly. Staff will support children to ensure they are washing correctly. Where a child refuses to wash their hands, then alternatives will need to be discussed with parents/carers. Hand sanitiser will also be available.
Question 12. My child is in the BAME group. What measures are being put in place?	It is recognised that those from the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups are at an increased risk of contracting Covid19. School believes that the measures identified in the whole school risk assessment mitigate these risks as far as is reasonably practicable within the current situation. S
Organisation	
Question 13. What days will my child be attending?	School will be open Monday to Friday. Unless on an agreed phased return, children will be expected to attend fulltime.
Question 14. How will drop off and pick up work?	School has changed the way in which the car park will operate in September. All vehicles will be asked to join the transport queue including parents who transport their child. We will operate two lines of traffic (one for each bubble). Vehicles will be asked to pull up onto the green lane. Children in the primary bubble will enter school through the lower door and those in the secondary bubble will enter through the main hall door. If your child comes to school on transport School has requested that where possible children travel to school with others from the same bubble. In a morning we will have a staggered start with some vehicles arriving at 8.50am and others at 9.00am. At home time vehicles will leave at 2.50pm and 3.00pm. Routes and timings are overseen by the Local Authority transport department. They will contact you with individual details. If you transport your child We envisage that the car park will be extremely busy at the start and end of the day. We ask where possible that you arrive at 9.05am and 3.05pm. You will be asked to join the main queue. No onsite parking will be available during these times.
Question 15. Does my child need to wear a school uniform?	We ask that all children wear a school uniform where possible. Please do not worry if you have had difficulty getting new uniform due to Covid 19 restrictions. Parents may choose to order uniform online – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Log onto www.schooltrends.co.uk 2. Find Old Park School using school name or postcode : DY5 2JY

Question 16. Will my child be in their normal classroom?	Children will be based in their new class groups from the 3 rd September 2020. All parents/carers have been sent a copy of the staffing and pupil list.
Question 17. Will school be operating a normal curriculum?	No. For the first full two weeks children will be classroom based. They will utilise the outdoor area on a rota basis. School will review the risk assessment regularly and will allow the use of specialist rooms or equipment e.g. swimming, rebound, soft play when it is felt safe to do so. There will be no offsite visits during the initial reopening period. Assemblies/circle time will be in class.
Question 18. What will happen at lunchtime?	For the first full two weeks the school kitchen will only be providing packed lunches and meals for those children who have a Dysphagia plan that requires food at a particular consistency. Parents who do not wish to purchase a packed lunch from the kitchen, can provide their own. Please try to remember healthy choices. Lunches will be stored in a fridge in each classroom. Children will eat their lunch in their allocated bubble classroom. This is will be reviewed in line with risk assessment.
Question 19. Will my child be able to use the outdoor play equipment?	Yes. Children will access outdoor play equipment with their bubble group.
Question 20. Will home to school diaries still be used? Can I speak to the staff in my child's bubble at the end of the day?	School diaries will be used, alongside telephone and email messages. Staff will not be able to have lengthy discussions at the end of the day. This is for the following reasons – a) to ensure transport is completed in a timely manner b) to maintain social distancing requirements c) staff will be engaged in cleaning tasks after the children have left.
Question 21. Will my child still have first aid administered if needed?	Yes. There will always be a named first aider on rota. Full PPE will be worn by staff when carrying out first aid.
Question 22. Will my child still be seen by a therapist?	Yes. School continues to work alongside the therapists who normally visit school. We are restricting visitors and face to face contact in bubbles and so therapists will notify School of which children they need to see in advance,
General	
Question 23. Are all Dudley Special Schools operating in the same way?	School has worked closely with the other Dudley Special Schools during this period to address issues and to look at potential solutions. However, each school operates in their own way and will therefore make plans based on their own risk assessment, staffing capacity and school environment.

J.Colbourne, Headteacher