



RECREATION ROAD INFANT SCHOOL

Recreation Road, Norwich, NR2 3PA

Telephone: 01603 457120 ♦ Email: office@recreationroad.norfolk.sch.uk ♦ www.recreationroad.com
Head Teacher: Michael Bunting ♦ Assistant Head Teachers: Susanna Manrique and Sheree Brock

5th March 2021

Further information about school re-opening on Monday 8th March

Dear parents and carers,

We're so looking forward to welcoming you all back on Monday! I'm writing to hopefully answer many of the questions and queries that you may still have about school re-opening. I hope the information below proves to be useful. Some will already be known to you, but might prove to be a useful refresher.

Preparing for Monday

Does my child need to attend school on Monday?

The government has made it very clear that attendance is compulsory from Monday onwards.

What clothing will my child need for school?

Please make sure that your child has sufficient clothing – both to wear outside and in the classroom. We will be using our outdoor spaces frequently and classrooms will be kept well-ventilated throughout the day to reduce the risk of Covid transmission. Some children may find it colder in school than they've been used to at home and may need to wear extra layers.

If your child has had a growth spurt during lockdown, remember that you can purchase school-branded clothing via our website: <http://www.recreationroad.com/the-office/kit-uniform/>

Children will not need to have separate clothing for P.E.. However, they will need suitable footwear – so no open-toed sandals or shoes with heels.

What items can my child bring into school?

We would ask you to help reduce the risk of Covid transmission by limiting the items your child brings in from home to only essential items, unless advised otherwise:

- Home learning books (please bring into school on the first day)
- Lunch boxes (containing no nuts, nut products or kiwi fruit)
- Hats and coats
- Bookbags (on a Monday and Thursday, to take home and return reading books)
- Water bottles
- Wellies
- School bags
- Swimming kits (in Year 2 only, from the week commencing 15th March).



RECREATION ROAD INFANT SCHOOL

Recreation Road, Norwich, NR2 3PA

Telephone: 01603 457120 ♦ Email: office@recreationroad.norfolk.sch.uk ♦ www.recreationroad.com

Head Teacher: Michael Bunting ♦ Assistant Head Teachers: Susanna Manrique and Sheree Brock

Monday itself

How should I travel to and from school?

Following Government advice, we encourage you to walk, scoot or cycle to school if at all possible. Only members of a household bubble should travel together to and from school, and only one adult from the household should travel with pupils. Different households should not walk together, unless they are part of the same support bubble.

If you need to use public transport please refer to [safer travel guidance for passengers](#). It is mandatory to wear a face covering on public transport unless an exemption applies. The link above provides more information.

How will the start and end of the school day be organized?

Please enter, queue and exit the site as follows:

Class	Entrance	Bike / scooter storage*	Queuing area	Exit
Doves	Double playground gates	By the swimming pool	In the Early Years Outdoor Area	Sports Centre gate
Swallows			Side door opposite swimming pool	Through the small single playground gate
Blackbirds			Parallel to the accessibility ramp	
Jays			In the taped off area outside the classroom	
Crows			In the passageway next to the classroom	Through the outdoor learning area and out of the main school gate
Robins				
Chaffinches	Main entrance gate	Main bike rack	Enter through the dark green gate onto the field, then do a U-turn and queue to the left of the classroom door.	Out of the main entrance gate
Owls			Through top green gate towards field, then queue to the right of classroom door, alongside the building.	
Magpies			Through top green gate towards field, then queue facing the classroom door.	Around the building and out the Sports Centre gate
Wrens			Through top gate towards field, then queue to the left of the classroom door (following the path next to the building)	Around the building and out the Sports Centre gate
Swifts			Double playground gates	Near the Sports Centre gate
Swans				



RECREATION ROAD INFANT SCHOOL

Recreation Road, Norwich, NR2 3PA

Telephone: 01603 457120 ♦ Email: office@recreationroad.norfolk.sch.uk ♦ www.recreationroad.com
 Head Teacher: Michael Bunting ♦ Assistant Head Teachers: Susanna Manrique and Sheree Brock

Each class has been allocated a drop-off and pick-up window (see below). Please make sure that you are only on site during your allocated window. If you arrive early, please wait on the other side of the road from the school. We will ensure that children feel well on arrival at school and will ask you to take them home where they have potential Covid-19 symptoms (no matter how mild). All children will be asked to sanitize / wash their hands on entry to the school day.

Child's class	Drop-off window	Collection window
Doves Jays Chaffinches Crows (note: change of timings) Magpies Swifts Swans	8:45 – 9:00am	2:35 – 2:45pm
Swallows Blackbirds Robins Owls Wrens	9:05 – 9:20am	2:55 – 3:05pm

Some important requests:

- Please ensure that you and your child sanitizes on entry to the site.
- Please leave the school site as soon as possible. This reduces the risk of different bubbles mixing.
- Please do not gather on the street outside after drop off. Current lockdown measures don't permit it.
- **Please, please do not tie dogs up near the school.** We have seen a rise in the number of dogs being brought to the school site. This is leading to parents and children having to walk out into the road to prevent contact with them. Given the number of pedestrians and cars that will be using Recreation Road next week, this is a potentially dangerous situation. We are also getting complaints from our neighbours, as some dogs are very vocal when left alone.

Queries about school life

How will bubbles be set up?

While many schools have had to work with a year group bubble structure, our site and staffing plan makes it possible for pupils to work in individual class bubbles throughout the day. As before this last lockdown, staff will work across a maximum of 4 classes (usually one year group) to ensure that adequate cover is available. We need this flexibility to provide staff with release time and to stop us from having to shut bubbles when classroom staff are unwell, on training or having to self-isolate. Staff have all been offered voluntary twice-weekly Covid tests and the take-up level has been incredibly high. We hope this provides you with some reassurance.

How will breaktimes and lunchtimes work?

Each class bubble will play and eat separately. Separate play areas are marked out on the field – these need to be near to each other and the school building in order to ensure that first aid / emergency situations can be dealt with effectively. Lunches will be eaten in classrooms, and a hot lunch will now be available to every child. You can see the lunch menu here: <http://www.recreationroad.com/the-office/lunch-menu/>



RECREATION ROAD INFANT SCHOOL

Recreation Road, Norwich, NR2 3PA

Telephone: 01603 457120 ♦ Email: office@recreationroad.norfolk.sch.uk ♦ www.recreationroad.com
Head Teacher: Michael Bunting ♦ Assistant Head Teachers: Susanna Manrique and Sheree Brock

Can we set up playdates or meet with other families at the park?

No. We are still in lockdown. While rules are being relaxed to some extent from 8th March, many still remain in place. As a staff team, we find it really frustrating when we're implementing strict safeguards in school but hear that some families are not following the guidance out of school, putting everyone at greater risk. Please help us to keep our community safe by keeping to the current rules:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home?priority-taxon=774cee22-d896-44c1-a611-e3109cce8eae>

Queries about Covid-19 procedures

How will the school manage children with Covid symptoms?

What should I do if a member of my household or support bubble shows Covid symptoms?

- If a pupil feels ill while they are at school we will keep them safe and move them away from others in a designated room while they wait to be collected. We will not leave a pupil who is ill where they are not safe to be left alone. In an emergency we will call the emergency services, and we will continue to provide first aid for emergencies as we normally do. Staff will wear personal protective equipment if a pupil develops symptoms or requires first aid and we need to be in close contact with them.
- Please collect your child as soon as you can if we ask you to (we'll always contact you if they become ill with either a temperature, a change to their sense of taste or smell, or a new, continuous cough). Please book a test for them immediately – you can do this quickly by calling 119.
- Please let us know if any member of your household develops symptoms as soon as you can. This means we will need to move your child into separate room while they are waiting to be collected to protect others in their bubble. You will then need to follow normal household isolations arrangements. Please arrange for a test to ascertain whether it is COVID-19 and share the results with the school so that we can communicate any necessary actions to other parents. Your privacy will be maintained when we do this.
- If anyone in your household develops any of the most common symptoms of COVID-19 (a new continuous cough, a high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell), everyone in the household must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. You should arrange for the person with symptoms to get tested. You can get a free test by calling 119 or via the online webpage: www.NHS.uk/coronavirus.

What will happen if someone from the school has a positive test?

If someone tests positive from the school then we will work with the local Health Protection Team from Public Health. We will advise you in the event that someone has tested positive where it means that your child needs to self-isolate.

Queries about learning

Will my child's home learning be valued?

Yes! We know how hard many children have worked at their learning, and indeed how hard many families have worked to keep their children's learning on track. Please bring back your child's home learning book on the Monday, so it can be quarantined before being looked at by the class teacher. All children who have completed learning in their Home Learning Books will receive a special certificate – please don't tell them, as we want it to be a surprise.

How can I keep informed about my child's learning and how they're settling back into school?

Teachers will of course be able to have brief conversations with you at the classroom door. Please remember to use the class email addresses if you have any non-urgent queries. If you have an urgent issues, the best way to make contact is by calling main reception (01603-457120).

Building strong foundations for a lifelong love of learning



RECREATION ROAD INFANT SCHOOL

Recreation Road, Norwich, NR2 3PA

Telephone: 01603 457120 ♦ Email: office@recreationroad.norfolk.sch.uk ♦ www.recreationroad.com
Head Teacher: Michael Bunting ♦ Assistant Head Teachers: Susanna Manrique and Sheree Brock

If you a meeting with a teacher becomes necessary, this will be done via telephone or video conferencing wherever possible and only by prior appointment.

Parent-teacher meetings in all year groups will take place the week commencing 22nd March. Further information will be provided early next week.

How will the learning be structured?

We'll start off by focussing on fulfilling the children's fundamental needs as precious little people. We think these needs are:

- Structure
- Routine
- Friendship
- Opportunity and accomplishment
- Freedom
- Collective identity

We're aware that many children will find stamina a challenge to begin with and will adjust our expectations accordingly.

We'll be assessing the children informally all the time, both wellbeing and learning wise, and this will help us to keep our expectations realistic but challenging. We will also do some learning assessments, but these will be informal and not at the expense of the children's wellbeing.

How will you help my child to catch-up?

Firstly, it's really important that we at school and home don't give children the impression that they are behind or lacking, as this can cause psychological harm. Also, we know that many children have learnt very well during lockdown.

As a result of our ongoing assessments, we will continually adjust our classroom teaching to meet the children's needs. As always, our curriculum will go from the children outwards; we will not be shoe-horning children into learning experiences that don't meet their current needs or developmental levels.

You may know that schools are given a pot of money to challenge educational disadvantage (Pupil Premium) and have also been given an additional pot of money this year to spend on helping children's learning affected by the pandemic (Catch-up Premium). You can find out more about how we will invest this funding here:

<http://www.recreationroad.com/our-school/policies-and-premiums/>

Queries about wellbeing

My child / our family's having a tough time. How can I make the school aware of this?

We're here to help! You can use the class email address or, if you feel uncomfortable with this, you can contact Susanna Manrique, who leads our excellent pastoral team (assistantheadpastoral@recreationroad.norfolk.sch.uk).

If you are finding things difficult financially, please let us know at the above email address. We can organize a food parcel for you, no questions asked, in partnership with the Soul Foundation. We can also support you to see if your child's eligible for benefits-related free school meals. Your child won't be the only one (around 15% of our children are eligible) and they will never be singled out in any way in front of their friends. If they are eligible, the school

Building strong foundations for a lifelong love of learning



RECREATION ROAD INFANT SCHOOL

Recreation Road, Norwich, NR2 3PA

Telephone: 01603 457120 ♦ Email: office@recreationroad.norfolk.sch.uk ♦ www.recreationroad.com
Head Teacher: Michael Bunting ♦ Assistant Head Teachers: Susanna Manrique and Sheree Brock

receives a considerable amount of extra funding to benefit pupils' learning and wellbeing. We're in the business of trying to do the very best for your children, so we'd love you to apply.

How can I get other wellbeing advice and support?

Our website can signpost you to some excellent resources:

<http://www.recreationroad.com/wellbeing/>

<http://www.recreationroad.com/welcome/self-care-advice/>

I hope you find this information useful. Please contact us if you have any questions or queries that haven't been answered. See you all on Monday! 😊

With warmest wishes,

Michael Bunting
Proud Head Teacher