



Sandfield Primary School
Stoke Road,
Guildford,
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Tel: 01483 566586

1st January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Confirming Sandfield Primary School return for all pupils Tuesday 5th January 2021

Happy New Year

I really hope that all our Sandfield families had an enjoyable Christmas break, albeit a quiet one. A chance to be with loved ones, to rest and reboot for the new year ahead. It was a challenging autumn term for us all and as a school we greatly appreciated our families support, understanding and flexibility during these ever-changing times. Working in partnership with our families is key and together we will surely face further uncertainty in the months ahead. Our main aim at Sandfield is the safety of all the children, their families and our staff. All decisions that we make are underpinned by the need to stay as safe as we can.

You may be aware that the vast majority of primary schools are opening from Monday 4th January and Sandfield will be open for all pupils to return on Tuesday 5th January, following our INSET day on the Monday.

Our risk assessments at Sandfield are robust and ensure that proportionate protective measures for children and staff are in place. There have been further amendments to the Guidance for full opening of schools, 30th December 2021, which reflects further requirements as Guildford lies within the Tier 4 area. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#main-changes-since-this-guidance-was-last-updated>

Key updates are:

- Shielding advice is currently in place in Tier 4, so all children and staff that are still deemed clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend school. Children and young people whose parents or carers are clinically extremely vulnerable can continue to go to school. Please do contact the school if this change will now impact your child's attendance. Further information can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19#cev>
- Ensuring that face masks are worn by staff, visitors and parents/carers entering the school premises and playground. Staff, who are not exempt, will wear face masks when working with children in small groups or 1:1 learning sessions.
- Breakfast and after-school provision in all local restriction tiers will resume at the start of term to enable parents and carers can continue to or return to work
- Testing for primary staff under the weekly and daily testing programmes will begin in the second half of January <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021/schools-and-childcare-settings-return-in-january-2021>

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We ask all families to continue to be a vigilant with the health of themselves and their children. I know that you are fully aware of the need to keep your children at home if they are unwell or another family member in your household displays any of the most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19):

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Please, only send your child/ren into school if they are well. Help keep us all safe and Sandfield open.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Aspens

Aspens will be offering hot meals again from Tuesday 5th January, so please make sure your child's lunches are booked using the Aspens online booking system.

Thank you for reading to the end of this letter. I know there is a lot of information to take on board and we really appreciate your continued support during this time. As a staff, we are very much looking forward to welcoming back the children again to the start of the Spring term.

Best wishes to you all for 2021 – and for better things to come.

Kind regards



Mrs Kate Collins
Headteacher