

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**  
**regarding Trinity CE Primary School for September 2020**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Attendance at school</b>
<b>a)</b>	<b><i>Will my child be returning to school in September?</i></b>
	Yes, your child will return to school full-time in September. The Government issued guidance which confirmed their plan that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from the beginning of the Autumn Term.
<b>b)</b>	<b><i>Will my child have to go to school?</i></b>
	Yes. The usual rules on attendance now apply – school is <b>mandatory</b> again from the autumn term.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Whole school approach</b>
<b>a)</b>	<b><i>What is the Government's intent and plan for all children to return to school full time from the start of September?</i></b>
	<p>It is based on a <b>twin strategy of limiting contact between pupils and implementing hygiene measures</b> (these are described in more detail in section 3(a) (System of controls) below). Contact between individuals is to be limited in schools. Contact is to be limited in two main ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. By ensuring pupils remain in consistent groups ('bubbles') wherever possible, thereby minimising the number of contacts between different people across the school</li> <li>2. By maintaining distance between individuals wherever possible ('social distancing'). Please see section 2(d) below for further details.</li> </ol>
<b>b)</b>	<b><i>Will Trinity be following the Government's intent and plan as outlined above?</i></b>
	Yes. Trinity school will be adhering to the Government intent and guidance.
<b>c)</b>	<b><i>How will children be grouped?</i></b>
	The children will be grouped in <b>Phase Group Bubbles</b> . There will be the EYFS Bubble; Y1/Y2 Phase Group Bubble; Y3/Y4 Phase Group Bubble; Y5/Y6 Phase Group Bubble. Phase Group Bubbles will mean we will be able to deliver a full curriculum and operate effectively. E.g. the organisation of break times, lunchtimes, PE etc.
<b>d)</b>	<b><i>Will there be social distancing within bubbles?</i></b>
	The DfE has recognised that strict social distancing will not always be possible, especially with primary-aged pupils. <b><i>The guidance specifically states "we recognise that younger</i></b>

	<p><b><i>children will not be able to maintain social distancing, and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group."</i></b></p> <p>All schools, in particular primary schools, are encouraged to take a realistic and pragmatic approach in this regard. This may include reminding children of the need to give each other space where possible; some schools may consider using a simple 'no touching' approach to help children understand the need to maintain distance. <b>However, the reality is that to fit all pupils in a classroom, they are likely to be in close proximity.</b> The DfE has accepted that pupils will need to be sat close to each other in most classrooms (The DfE recommends that pupils sit side-by-side and do not face each other if this is possible).</p> <p>If older children can maintain social distancing, they will be encouraged to do so. The DfE states "for children old enough, they should also be supported to maintain distance and not touch staff where possible." If this is possible for older children in primary too, that is to be encouraged, but as the DfE has made clear, <b><i>it is not an essential requirement.</i></b> The DfE has stated that pupils passing each other briefly in a corridor or playground (eg walking past each other) is a relatively 'low risk', but that schools should try to avoid large groups of pupils mixing together in these spaces at the same time.</p>
e)	<p><b><i>Will the Phase Group Bubble be expected to keep away from other Phase Group Bubbles? E.g. Will the Y1/Y2 Phase Group Bubble be kept away from the Y5/Y6 Phase Group Bubble?</i></b></p>
	<p>Yes. The phase group bubbles will be kept away from each other at all times.</p>
f)	<p><b><i>Can staff move between Phase Group Bubbles?</i></b></p>
	<p>Yes. The DfE has said that teachers/staff are permitted to move between bubbles. While it is advisable to minimise movement if and where possible, the reality is that this will not always be possible. This also means that PPA staff can teach across different groups and bubbles.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Safety at school</b></p>
a)	<p><b><i>What protective measures will be in place at Trinity?</i></b></p>
	<p>We will follow a system of controls which are grouped into <b>‘prevention’ and ‘response.’</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#section-1-public-health-advice-to-minimise-coronavirus-covid-19-risks">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools#section-1-public-health-advice-to-minimise-coronavirus-covid-19-risks</a></p> <p><b>Prevention:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school</li> <li>● clean hands thoroughly more often than usual</li> <li>● ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach</li> <li>● minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible</li> <li>● where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)</li> </ul> <p><b>Response:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● engage with the NHS Test and Trace process</li> <li>● manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community</li> <li>● contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice</li> </ul>
<b>b)</b>	<b><i>Are staff going to wear PPE equipment?</i></b>
	<p>DfE guidance has said that the majority of staff in schools will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work. PPE will be needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Where an individual child becomes ill with COVID-19 symptoms while at school</li> <li>● Where a child has intimate care needs</li> <li>● Where a child requires first aid such as nose bleeds</li> </ul>
<b>c)</b>	<p><b><i>Questions regarding the scenario of a positive test at Trinity, for example:</i></b></p> <p><b><i>If we have a positive case in a bubble, do other bubbles with siblings also need to test and isolate?</i></b></p> <p><b><i>If pupils are in the hall together for lunch and one of those has a positive test for covid-19, does everyone else have to isolate?</i></b></p> <p><b><i>If two separate bubbles are outside for playtime together and there is a confirmed case in one group, do both groups have to isolate, including all staff that were out on duty?</i></b></p>
	<p>The answer to these three questions is ‘not necessarily’. The DfE's guidance states that if someone in school tests positive, they should contact <b>the local health protection team</b>. The health protection team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious and ensure they are asked to self-isolate.</p> <p><b>The health protection team will work with schools in this situation to guide them through the actions they need to take. Based on the advice from the health protection team, schools must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious.</b></p> <p>Schools should take the advice of the local health protection teams when deciding who should be asked to isolate.</p>

d)	<b><i>What happens if Trinity has to close due to a local outbreak of COVID?</i></b>
	Please refer to the Scenario Planning Document that has been sent to you. This document outlines the potential scenarios depending upon the government guidance issued. In the instance of a full lockdown, the school will be closed apart for key worker children and the school will revert to the virtual classroom provision.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>
a)	<b><i>How will my child catch up? What will the curriculum look like? Will my child be far behind?</i></b>
	<p>When the children return to Trinity in September we have put their well-being at the heart of our curriculum. We acknowledge that the children will have had different experiences during this time. However, the common thread running through all is the loss of routine, structure, friendship, opportunity and freedom. Many of our children will return to school disengaged, anxious, worried, they may have regressed, low mood, poor self-image, lack of self-confidence, fearful, confused. This is trauma and we need to urgently address this.</p> <p>We want to help children come back into school life, acknowledging the experiences they have had. We want children to be happy, feel safe and able to be engaged in their learning. We have decided that a way to achieve this for the children is to acknowledge the importance of helping them get back into school life through using ‘recovery conversations’ alongside our PSHCE/mental wellbeing programme which will provide a scaffold for our children to talk about their experiences and explore the following themes:</p> <p><b>A Sense of Community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helping pupils reconnect as a school community, recognising the important part each individual plays. Looking at learning behaviours and the school values.</li> </ul> <p><b>Rebuilding Relationships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refocusing on friendships and positive relationships within school</li> </ul> <p><b>Re-establishing Routines</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring people settle back into school life, adjusting well to necessary changes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Respecting Space and Social Distancing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a ‘new normal’ in relation to proximity and personal space</li> </ul> <p><b>Experiencing Loss – Supporting children to manage their feelings and behaviour</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting pupils as they struggle to understand their emotions</li> </ul> <p><b>Excellence and Enjoyment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support children to feel they can succeed; fun times focusing on physical health and well-being to rejuvenate positive endorphins and help children want to engage and reignite their passion for learning.</li> </ul>

	<p><a href="https://schoolsworld.co.uk/a-recovery-curriculum-or-recovery-conversations/">(https://schoolsworld.co.uk/a-recovery-curriculum-or-recovery-conversations/)</a></p> <p>At Trinity we will not use the language of falling behind, catching up, as these terms reaffirm negative feelings and emotions but rather we will celebrate all our children's achievements during lockdown and then together begin to address the gaps in learning.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>In the classroom</b>
<b>a)</b>	<b><i>Will there be assemblies, Phase Leader assemblies, any other type of gathering?</i></b>
	We have been advised that there should be no large gatherings bringing different groups together, e.g. whole-school assemblies. However, we will continue to use video assemblies and other resources within the classroom.
<b>b)</b>	<b><i>Do children in the KS1 and KS2 have to sit in rows facing the front?</i></b>
	<p>The Department for Education's (DfE's) guidance suggests that pupils sit facing the front is one measure schools could take; it is not mandatory. The idea is that by not having pupils facing each other directly (i.e. facing the front instead), it reduces the risk of spreading the virus via respiratory droplets.</p> <p>The school will carry out risk assessments to determine the measures we will put in place to reduce risks.</p>
<b>c)</b>	<b><i>Do children in the Early Years have to sit in rows facing the front?</i></b>
	No. Trinity will not be adopting this approach for the Early Years children.
<b>d)</b>	<b><i>Can staff still deliver 1:1 interventions with pupils?</i></b>
	Yes, they can. Staff who are working with pupils across different bubbles are advised to take additional precautions. For example, remaining 2m apart if possible and avoiding close face-to-face contact.
<b>e)</b>	<b><i>Will there be school trips?</i></b>
	Domestic day trips (not overnight) are permitted to resume in the autumn term, subject to protective measures being taken
<b>6.</b>	<b>Logistics</b>
<b>a)</b>	<b><i>Will there be part time rotas in place?</i></b>
	No. Plans will be based on a full time provision for our children. However, children will have staggered start and finish times to keep different Phase Group Bubbles apart as they arrive and leave Trinity. We will aim to ensure that the total amount of teaching time your children receive remains the same e.g. an earlier start would mean an earlier finish.

<b>b)</b>	<b><i>What time will school start and end for my child/phase?</i></b>
	We are still trying to deal with all the logistical arrangements and planning. We will advise you at the end of August / beginning of September. Please note the comments above regarding our intention to adhere to the teaching time for your child.
<b>c)</b>	<b><i>How will children enter/leave Trinity?</i></b>
	We are trialling the use of the 3 gates- <b>Kissing Gate, Top Gate by Normanstead and The Main School Gate</b> - during our Transition Days. It is hoped that we will use these gates to help alleviate congestion during drop off and pick up times. Gathering at the school gates and coming onto the school site without an appointment will not be allowed.
<b>d)</b>	<b><i>Are parents/carers, visitors allowed on site?</i></b>
	<p>Wherever possible, schools are encouraged to avoid visitors entering their premises. Therefore, parents/carers will not be allowed on the premises unless they have an appointment or have been invited into the school. The new EYFS children will be allowed to have one parent accompany them onto the playground in order to support their child starting at Trinity.</p> <p>In instances where we will need to use other essential professionals, such as social workers, speech and language therapists or counsellors, or professionals to support the delivery of a child's education, health and care (EHCP) plan, schools will need to assess whether the professionals need to attend in person or can do so virtually. If they need to attend in person, they should closely follow the protective measures in the setting, and the number of attendances should be kept to a minimum. Where possible to do so, social distancing should be maintained.</p>
<b>e)</b>	<b><i>Will my child have a hot meal at lunchtime?</i></b>
	<p>The DfE expects that kitchens will be fully open from the start of the autumn term and normal legal requirements will apply about the provision of food to all pupils who want it. Oxfordshire County Council have advised that on <b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b> and <b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b> children packed lunches will be provided to those children who qualify for free school meals.</p> <p>As of <b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b> hot meals will resume.</p>
<b>f)</b>	<b><i>Will my child have to wear their school uniform?</i></b>
	Yes. From September, all children will need to wear their school uniform to school.
<b>g)</b>	<b><i>Can my child bring a bag/lunch box to school?</i></b>
	It is recommended that children limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day to essentials, such as lunch boxes, hats, coats, books, stationery and mobile phones. Bags are allowed.

<b>h)</b>	<b><i>Will the before/during/after school clubs and activities be running in September?</i></b>
	<p>The before/during/after school clubs and activities will be running in the Autumn term.</p> <p>The DfE has stated that ideally schools would keep to the bubbles used during the school day, but recognised this <b>might not be possible</b>. It has stated that <b>"if it is not possible to maintain bubbles being used during the school day, then schools should use small, consistent groups."</b></p> <p>Supply teachers, peripatetic teachers, therapists and other specialists are permitted to move between schools. These teachers are advised to ensure they minimise contact and maintain as much distance as possible from other staff.</p>
<b>i)</b>	<b><i>Will there be any Parent / Teacher Consultations in the Autumn Term?</i></b>
	<p>We will certainly want to meet with you to discuss your child. However, we will need to work out the best way of doing this either through a virtual platform or face to face and we will advise you in September</p>