

Executive Headteacher
Mrs Christabel Shepherd
Head of School
Miss Stephanie Ngenda

Tel 01274 501460 Fax 01274 574354 Email office@copthorneacademy.co.uk Website www.copthorneacademy.co.uk

26.02.2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you'll be aware, the government has announced that schools will reopen to all pupils on **Monday 8th March**. We're very much looking forward to welcoming back more of our pupils to face-to-face education at this point.

Attendance

From 8th March, school attendance will be mandatory and our usual rules on attendance will apply. As a reminder, your child should self-isolate and not come to school if they:

- Have coronavirus symptoms or have tested positive
- Live with someone who has symptoms or have tested positive
- Are a close contact of someone who has tested positive

In line with the latest government guidance, pupils who are **clinically extremely vulnerable should not attend school**. If your child is in this group, they should continue to learn from home until further notice. If this applies to your child, please provide school with a copy of your child's shielding letter.

For pupils who are self-isolating or shielding, we will:

- Provide remote learning that allows your child to access as much of the curriculum as possible
- Make alternative arrangements if your child can't access remote learning
- Support your child's wellbeing, such as by allowing them to talk with school staff regularly, when possible
- Provide free school meals to eligible pupils through packages delivered in school
- Keep in touch about developments in school through Class Dojo, notices, newsletters, text, email and the school website

Our safety measures

Rest assured that we're doing everything we can to make sure our pupils can return to school safely. We'll be taking the following protective measures to keep everyone safe:

Asking that anyone who is displaying coronavirus symptoms, or who lives with someone
who is displaying symptoms, does not attend the setting. That includes children and staff
who work here



















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- Asking that staff, parents and children adhere to social distancing on the playground and outside school. When dropping off and collecting children, masks must be worn, unless medically exempt
- Staggering start and collection times to 8.30am or 8.45am and 2.45pm or 3.00pm. You will
 notified by text of your child's start and collection time.
- Assigning drop off and collection points for all classes. You will be informed by text where to drop off and collect your child.
- Asking all parents and carers to ensure they organise a test for their child, in the event that they develop coronavirus symptoms, and notify us immediately of a positive test
- Keeping our children in year group bubbles with as much consistent staffing as possible, and minimising contact with other groups around the setting
- Avoiding unnecessary sharing of items e.g. stationary
- Cleaning our hands more often than usual. We have developed routines to ensure children
 understand when and how to wash their hands, making sure they wash them thoroughly for
 at least 20 seconds using running water and soap and dry them thoroughly, or use alcohol
 hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered
- Ensuring our children understand good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and ensuring a good supply of tissues and bins throughout the setting
- Ensuring adequate ventilation throughout school, opening windows where possible
- Implementing an enhanced cleaning schedule, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including table tops, door handles and play equipment
- Requesting that parents do not enter the building, unless in the event of an emergency
- Providing opportunities for all children to learn outdoors
- Requesting that children wear clean school uniform each day
- Requesting that children attend school in their PE kits on the days that they a PE lesson

The full risk assessment can be viewed on the website at https://copthorneacademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Jan-Operational-COVID-19-Risk-Assessment.pdf

Lockdown has been a challenging period for all of us, and we'd like to thank you for your continuing support during this difficult and uncertain time.

If you or your child have any concerns about returning to school, or if you think your child might need extra support when they return, please get in touch with use the support@copthorneacademy.co.uk email address.



















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We'd also like to thank you for all your support in helping your child learn from home. The efforts from our families have been tremendous in incredibly difficult circumstances.

We'll continue to keep in touch if we update our plans or if we need to make changes due to new government guidance.

Yours faithfully,

Stephanie Ngenda

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Head of School

















