



Thundersley Primary School  
Hart Road, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex SS7 3PT  
Headteacher: Miss E. Dawson  
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Dear Parents,

Please find below a series of FAQs, which I hope will support you and your child in the coming weeks.

### **Will children be doing PE?**

Yes. We ask that on the days that your child is doing PE that they come to school in their PE kit consisting of black shorts and yellow PE top with school logo, with a plain coloured tracksuit on top as the weather gets colder. You can purchase a Thundersley tracksuit from the uniform shops, but that is optional.

### **Will my child be heard to read?**

Yes. In EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 this will be part of the school week and staff will wear masks. Our Bronze, Silver and Gold reading awards will start on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020, so we ask that you hear your child read 5 times per week at home and record this in their home/school diary. In EYFS, children will be sent home with 2 reading books which will be changed weekly on the same day each week. For children in all other year groups, they can change their books on Monday and Thursday. Books brought back will then be put in quarantine before being put back onto the shelves.

### **Will my child's work be marked?**

Yes. As always, feedback is given to children in a variety of ways throughout the day – whole class feedback after work has been handed in, sharing good work using the visualiser, self-assessment, peer assessment and marking books. Teachers will mark books where necessary but are not permitted to take any books home and will ensure that they practise good hand hygiene when doing so. If a teacher is working closely with a child giving feedback, they will wear a mask and/or visor.

### **How will lunch time operate?**

Lunchtimes are staggered with children in Years EYFS to Year 3 eating in the hall in their bubbles and Year 4, 5 and 6 in their classrooms. When more than one class is in the hall, they are kept separate so that social distancing is adhered to. Each class has a Midday Assistant assigned to them. Each class has a separate section of our field or playground.

### **Will my child be helped to cut up their food at lunchtime?**

Yes. In EYFS and Year 1, by Midday Assistants wearing masks.

No. In Year 2 and above unless your child has a particular issue, which we will be aware of already.

### **Can my child bring a packed lunch?**

Yes. Please make sure that your child can eat what you have given them independently e.g open their drinks, yoghurts etc. To limit movement around the hall, we have asked children to place any rubbish back in their lunchboxes. This will also allow you to see what your child has eaten.





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### **Will my child be able to collect their drinks bottle from their class at lunchtime?**

No. Unless they are in Years 4, 5 or 6 who are eating in their classrooms. In all other year groups, we ask that you provide a separate drink in their lunchbox.

### **Can my Year 6 child walk to and from school?**

Yes. If we have your written permission. If you are happy for your Year 6 children to walk to and from school, they can do so, if you have first sent us an email to [support@thundersley.essex.sch.uk](mailto:support@thundersley.essex.sch.uk) letting us know with the subject **Y6 walking** and **their name and class**.

### **How often will children wash their hands/will you provide hand sanitiser?**

Most of the classes have sinks and where this is not the case hand sanitiser is provided. Hand sanitising stations have been fitted in corridors, halls and in classrooms. Hand washing will take place throughout the day and children will be reminded regularly of how to do so properly. If your child would like to bring their own hand sanitiser, that is fine but this must be labelled and not shared. Please make sure that your child washes their hands before leaving home and then again as they arrive home.

### **What regular cleaning routines are in place?**

High touch areas are cleaned regularly throughout the day, in addition to our normal rigorous cleaning regime. This includes - toilet handles, door handles, taps, sinks, table tops. If rooms are used for more than one group, cleaning will take place between groups.

### **What should my child bring to school?**

In order to limit movement within school, lockers and pegs which are not in classrooms may not be used, so many classes will be keeping their belongings at their desks. We therefore are limiting what can be brought in. Therefore only bring:-

- A wipeable, named lunchbox with an additional snack inside for breacktime.
- A wipeable named waterbottle which your child can open independently.
- A small named hand sanitiser if you wish. We will, of course, supply this in school but if you wish your child to have their own to keep on their desk, that is fine. They must not share.
- A reading book and reading record book.

### **How do I contact a member of staff?**

Parents and carers will not be able to enter the school building for any reason, unless you have arranged an appointment or there is an emergency. If you need to contact the class teacher, please telephone the school office on 01268 793251 or email [admin@thundersley.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thundersley.essex.sch.uk). If you do enter the School Reception area, please only one person at a time and we ask that you to wear a mask.

### **Will we be having Parent Consultations Meetings this term?**

No. Instead, teachers will be calling 5 or 6 parents per week on a rota basis, to ensure that we continue to develop good relationships with all families and that we can update you with the progress your child is making. If we put your child into an intervention of any sort, we will call you to let you know and





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follow this up with an email so that you know what they are doing and how we expect you to help them at home.

### **How has your curriculum been adapted to deal with the differing needs of children since lockdown?**

In the next few weeks, you will be sent a link to a presentation led by the teachers all about the curriculum for this year which we hope will give you a flavour of what they will be learning. Personal, Social and Health education is one of our top priorities and as a whole school, we will be using the Place2Be scheme of work in the next month to support children's well being. We will also be sending out a document detailing our strategy for ensuring any gaps in children's learning brought about by school closure are filled.

### **What has happened to all the wonderful work my child submitted during lockdown?**

Their work is all saved in their Google Drive and will stay with them for the time that they are Thundersley. Teachers have access to all of this and will refer back to it to see all they did.

### **Will you operate Breakfast Club and Treetops?**

Breakfast Club and Treetops after school club will be running as normal, with children who are not in the same class bubble adhering to social distancing. Our main base will be the Yellow Hall and registration will take place here. If numbers are such that we feel social distancing measures cannot be adhered to, we will use the Green Hall for EYFS and KS1. If you would like a place for your child, please contact Mrs Bezdel at [bezdel@thundersley.essex.sch.uk](mailto:bezdel@thundersley.essex.sch.uk)

### **How can I help my child at home?**

As usual, reading is our top priority. Research shows that being a proficient reader also leads to children doing well across all learning, so please continue to read with your child five times per week. In addition, children will receive spelling lists to learn and Lucky Listener texts to read. In KS2, the CGP Maths and English book for KS2 which we brought in last year, will also be used. For children who are part of interventions, we will let individual parents know what we expect them to do to support their child at home.

### **Will staff be provided with PPE?**

All staff have been provided with PPE. Our approach is that if staff cannot adhere to 2 metre social distancing that they should wear a face covering. There are also situations - first aid and dealing with a child who has symptoms of Covid - where they will wear an apron, gloves, mask and a visor.

### **Should my child come to school with a cold?**

The NHS advises that if a child has mild cold-like symptoms they should continue to go to school. Sore throats and blocked or runny noses are not symptoms of coronavirus. In the case of a heavy cold children may need to take a day or two off to get better. However, if your child also has a new continuous cough or a fever, or a loss of - or change in - their sense of smell or taste, they may have coronavirus. Your child should stay at home, isolate for at least 10 days and be tested.





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### **What will happen if a child in my child's class is tested positive for COVID?**

If we get confirmation that a child has been tested positive for COVID, Miss Dawson will immediately contact Public Health England. The Health Protection Team will work with the school to guide us through the actions we need to take. Based on the advice from the Health Protection Team, we will send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. Close contact means:

- direct close contacts - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin).
- proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual.
- travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person.

Family members of those children sent home do not have to self isolate unless the child develops symptoms.

