

The return to school in September

Key questions and answers

KEY QUESTIONS

Will my child's school be open?

The expectation is that all schools will open to all year groups from September 1, including Alternative Provision, the start of the new academic year. All schools have carried out detailed risk assessments to ensure every school's safety measures are in place and in line with the most up-to-date government guidance.

[Further information here.](#)



Will all children have to go back to school in September?

From September 2020, the government expects all pupils will return to school full-time. Schools will work with parents to support pupils' return to school and secure their full **attendance**.



What will be different about schools in September?

Schools are looking forward to pupils returning and are making arrangements to help pupils settle back into a daily routine. Some things may be different. Arrival times may be staggered, for example, to aid social distancing among pupils and parents while pupils will be kept in year groups or smaller 'bubbles'. Protective measures will be in place such as frequent handwashing, respiratory hygiene and social distancing between year groups and staff. Break times and lunch times will feel different. Bubbles will stay together, as far as possible, and there will be some restrictions on pupils' movements around the school. Some lessons, such as music or PE, will have to be organised differently.



What happens if there is a positive case of Covid-19 at my child's school?

The local authority and Public Health England have worked closely with schools to ensure government guidance is followed and that schools act swiftly if there is a positive case at their setting. This will limit disruption as much as possible so that any enforced absences are kept to a minimum while test results are carried out and the necessary period of self-isolation is observed by staff, pupils and their families, where appropriate.



How will my child get to school?

We strongly encourage pupils and families, wherever possible and safe, to either **walk or cycle** to school. As well as the physical and mental health benefits of the exercise, this will help to keep the roads around the school safe from excessive traffic.

From September 1, there will be dedicated school transport arrangements in place. General advice and rules, in line with **Government guidance**, to help keep your child safe on this particular type of service will be made available to parents and carers



My child has been doing online learning at home. Will this continue after children go back to school?

Schools hope that pupils will spend as much time as possible in the setting. However, they will need the flexibility to respond safely and may include e-learning among the other approaches to teaching and learning. Schools have to ensure that remote learning is available immediately in the event that children are not able to physically attend school.



Will there be school meals?

Government guidance expects that school and college kitchens should be fully open from the start of the autumn term, and they will provide free school meals and universal infant free school meals as usual for those who are eligible. You can check your eligibility **here**

Families can apply for Free School Meals at any time online through the Parent Portal or call Customer Service Centre: on 01926 359189 (Mon – Thu: 9am – 5pm, Fri: 9am – 4:30pm).

The qualifying benefits for free school meals can also be found on the free school meals page.



My child is starting a new secondary school? How can I reassure them?

Secondary schools are looking forward to welcoming new Year 7 pupils and there is a lot of support to ease the **transition to secondary school**. You can help by reassuring your child that the school has been preparing for them and that every other pupil in their year group is in the same position. Encourage your child to be friendly and kind to others.



Will there be Out of School and Wrap Around Care?

Out of school and Wrap around care providers will be open and offering care for children. As with schools and early years providers detailed risk assessments will be in place in line with up to date **guidance**.

To find a local provider contact the Family Information Service :-
fis@warwickshire.gov.uk or 01926 742274.



Will Early Years provision be available?

Nursery providers reopened more widely to children from 1st June 2020 and will be available to take children for funded and paid for sessions. Providers have undertaken detailed risk assessments, inline with current guidance, to ensure that safety measures are in place.

To find a local provider contact the Family Information Service :-
fis@warwickshire.gov.uk or 01926 742274. For information on early education funded places:- <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> or email:- [eyfunding@warwickshire](mailto:eyfunding@warwickshire.gov.uk).



Will there be extra-curricular activities?

Schools will provide as many extra-curricular activities as possible but it might be that, initially at least, there is a reduced offer. Schools will be working to re-instate a full programme as soon as it is safe to do so. Parents should check their child's school's website for their arrangements.



A Level / GCSE results - what are the arrangements?

Ofqual, the exams regulator, ran a consultation in the spring shortly after exams were cancelled to determine the process to calculate grades. Guidance for parents and students will be available **here**.

Schools and colleges will also be providing as much information and support as possible, on and around results days, on their websites.



Where can I find support for my child should they need it?

You should be reassured by feedback from schools that pupils returning to school have found the experience to be positive and enjoyable after so long away. However, we recognise that some children might react differently. If you have any concerns, talk to the teachers or you might find this [website](#) useful.



Useful Links

[Link to parents' guidance \(up to date\)](#)

[Active Travel](#)

[Updated link to Ofqual guidance for GCSE and A level results](#)

[FIS](#)