



# Furzedown Primary School

This school is committed to safeguarding children

[www.furzedownschool.co.uk](http://www.furzedownschool.co.uk)

Beclands Road, London. SW17 9TJ  
Tel: (020) 8672 3480  
Email: [admin@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs. M. Kitchlew-Wilson  
Deputy Headteacher: Ms. C. Heywood

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to have been able to welcome back the children to school this week. We have discussed at length how we can best continue to keep everyone as safe as possible in school. As well as dealing with physical health and safety we have been very mindful of the overarching need to have in place strategies to deal with anxiety and mental health, as well as the learning recovery.

I hope the information is of interest and goes some way to giving a picture of what is happening inside the school. The key points we have included cover preventative measures, response procedures and how parents can work with us to protect our community. Our risk assessment online is in the process of having details added from the government guidance which kicked in this week.

Our priority is to help all children cope with any anxieties which have resulted from the pandemic and our new normal and to enable a positive recovery for everyone in a safe environment.

I know we can rely on your support.

## How can parents help?

1. Informing us promptly via the emails above and phoning 02086723480 to leave a message at any time.
2. Wearing a face-mask to drop off and pick up your children.
3. Only one adult for pick up and drop off please.
4. Encouraging children to wash hands and contain coughs and sneezes in tissues that are put into the right bins.
5. Please don't send a poorly child to school.
6. Avoid socialising out of your bubbles in line with government guidance.
7. Please talk to the teacher if you have any worries and need clarification
8. ITS learning has a messaging service and all teachers have email addresses or leave a message with the office.





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## Prevention Control

### Classrooms and lessons

In school we have deep cleaned all of the communal areas and steamed all of the carpets. We have removed soft furnishings.

All staff in all classes continue to clean their class surfaces with anti-viral sprays regularly throughout the day. Touch points such as door handles etc are also sprayed and cleaned. All classes have been issued with their own cleaning essentials. Paper towels are used for hand drying and special lidded bins for these are emptied on a daily basis.

Doors and windows are left open to ensure a flow of air throughout. We are lucky that every classroom has a door to the outside as well as a corridor door.

Internal doors on to the corridor and outside windows are propped open to encourage air-flow, and hand washing and hand sanitising takes place on arrival, departure and multiple times throughout the day.

Children are also reminded to wash their hands straight away if they cough or sneeze.

In the older classrooms, tables have been moved facing into the wall or screens rather than onto other tables to avoid the risk of airborne infections, so children are sitting next to rather than facing each other.

There are set seats for most children for most of the day.

Corridors are one way and the toilets are segregated by year groups.



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We have an outdoor learning policy and try to get out of the classrooms as much as possible and this will be more evident as the weather improves.

## Specialist lessons

We have timetabled the music lessons to be in the hall where the class can be spread out and if this has not been possible, Ms Openshaw pre-records the lesson so it can be delivered in the classroom.

- No instrumental lessons except bucket drumming and violins (which take place in the main hall with all windows open).
- No singing in large groups only in bubbles.
- Assemblies are held remotely.
- Games lessons are taking place in the playground with specialist teachers but one bubble at a time (per morning/afternoon session). Once again, this is to minimise contact across bubbles. Teachers are very careful to sanitise tables and equipment.
- The art lessons have continued with a bubble per day visiting the art room or the art teachers providing the resources and activities to the class.

## Staff

- The staff room has been stripped down to the bare minimum and staff have staggered breaks. There are also separate areas for staff to take breaks in.
- Staff meetings are in bubbles or via Teams.
- Staff have bi-weekly lateral flow tests. None have been positive. Any positive case will result in the teacher having to take a PCR test and the teacher immediately self-isolating. Many staff are now vaccinated.
- All staff will wear face coverings at drop off and collection times.





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## Lunches

Lunches are served over a longer period and staggered in bubbles. The staff helping the children are their year group assistants. The packed lunch children stay in the classroom and the school dinner children go up so there is enough space to keep the bubbles in separate areas.

Children are kept in their year group bubbles in the playground and during the lunch break.

11:45 reception

12:00 yr 1

12:15 yr 2

12:30 yr 3

12:45 yr 4

1:00 yr 5

1:15 yr 6

## Covid Symptoms:

The Covid symptoms list has been added to and many of these symptoms may be related to non-Covid issues.

However when a child presents with any of these symptoms in school they are brought to the medical room and their parent/carer is advised to collect ASAP. The staff caring for them will be wearing masks and the children will be isolated until they are collected.

The symptoms to be aware of could include

- Temperature
- Cough/difficulty breathing and shortness of breathe
- Headache





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- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Neck or muscle pain
- Runny or congested nose
- Feeling unusually weak/fatigued or extra tired.
- Diarrhoea, vomiting or abdominal pain
- Nausea
- Rash
- Bloodshot eyes.

For children who show potential Covid symptoms, we have lateral flow tests and PCR tests in school that will be offered to the parent. The parent will be advised to have the child tested and to let the school know of the results as soon as possible.

If a lateral flow test comes back positive the parent will need to get a PCR test for the child and keep the child at home until the result is known.

## Parental responsibility

To inform the school as quickly as possible if your child presents with any of these symptoms and/or tests positive, so we can take the appropriate action, contact parents and get children picked up ASAP. It does take some time to contact and talk to parents individually and get the children picked up. We do need to talk to the parents/carers to make sure that everyone understands the procedures and has the opportunity to ask any questions.

## Clinically Extremely Vulnerable children

In order to continue to protect these children from potential exposure to coronavirus we strongly advise you to continue to shield your child until the guidance changes or you are advised by your doctor or medical profession that they are safe to return to school.

This particular guidance is found within the Schools Coronavirus (COVID-19) Operational Guidance.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/967139/Schools\\_coronavirus\\_operational\\_guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/967139/Schools_coronavirus_operational_guidance.pdf)



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Silver Award  
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INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE | Gold



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## Updates

All Wandsworth Head teachers are sent a weekly update from the Deputy Director of Education highlighting if there are any changes that should be made.

We also keep a close eye on the situation in the school and highlight where there are any differences at all in government requirements.

You will remember we decided to close the school early at Christmas because the number of positive cases across the bubbles was alarming. This was against Wandsworth guidance at the time. However it seemed sensible given our circumstances and a few days later there were multiple cases across many Wandsworth schools.

We continue to monitor any cases and make decisions based on any change.

## Recovery Curriculum and Mental Wellbeing:

We have had a lot of discussions and concerns around these issues with members of staff. This is our number one priority for all children including those we have had in small groups in school.

## Mental health

- Drama-therapy
- Extended hours for Learning mentors
- 2 Play therapists
- Positivity, affirmation and mindfulness resources for all classes.
- Daily PSHE reflections

## Recovery Curriculum

The teachers are assessing the children and sorting out small group support and targeted interventions and will be continuing to look at how they can help the recovery.

Ms Chappell (SENCO)





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[senco@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:senco@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk)

Mrs Snowdon (Learning mentor)

[cheryl.snowdon@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:cheryl.snowdon@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk)

Both are available if you are concerned about your child's behaviour /mental health and would like to talk to a member of staff.

## Covid Response

### What to do if there is a positive case in your family

- Parents should phone the office as soon as they are aware of a case in the family. The phone messages are checked every morning. Please also send emails to [admin@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk) [attendance@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@furzedown.wandsworth.sch.uk)
- Office staff will inform the teacher and start contacting the parents to get the children taken home. They will be kept in their bubble while this is happening. They will be sent home with information regarding self-isolation and testing.
- The school can provide lateral flow tests to children who are being sent home or you can order your own <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>
- The school has a small number of PCR tests that we can give to a child who needs a PCR test.
- If your child tests positive, please do make sure they and the household bubble self-isolate for the full time, follow the latest government guidance
- If another member of your household tests positive, please do make sure they and the household bubble self-isolate for the full time, follow the latest government guidance and have your child tested ASAP if they exhibit symptoms. 1 in 3 cases are asymptomatic.

