

# Admission to School : September 2020



# SHIRLEY INFANT SCHOOL September 2020 Guidance

*Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day*







# Welcome Back

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, they have worked so hard during this time. For us school did not close in March. They have worked tirelessly to keep the learning and excitement going for the children. They have come up with such brilliant activities and ideas for the home learning. The Office and Site team have worked so hard to keep the school running and ensure the setting is as safe as it can be to have welcomed back some of our children. We will be using all of this knowledge to ensure a smooth transition back for the whole school which we are so very excited about!

The government announced on 2nd July that schools will fully reopen in September 2020. We are planning under this guidance to reopen to all Year groups in September:

**Year 1 and Year 2 will return on Monday 7th September 2020**

**Year R will start on their transition timetable the week beginning 14th September 2020. Please follow your coloured sheets of the days your child is in school.**

Everything that we are planning is being taken from this current DFE documentation. We know that some of these decisions will be difficult to manage and we are doing our best to put into place what is required of us from the Government. We have discussed these plans with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Governing body, both schools Parent Forum and then the Full Governing body. None of these decisions have been made lightly and they have been planned for the best safety we can give our staff and children in this current situation.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We know you have lots of questions and we are not able to answer all of them but we will be as open and honest with you as possible. We have written about each change for September through this book but we have highlighted some key questions. A few are highlighted here:

## **What is a recovery curriculum?**

To support continuity and development in the autumn term we will continue the children's learning from when we closed the school in the spring term. Timetables will reflect previous year group expectations. For example, year one children will continue to learn in smaller groups like they do in early years and daily play-based activities will continue for much of the autumn term. In the first few weeks, teachers will assess where children currently are in the curriculum so that they can tailor the children's' learning needs accurately and ensure appropriate support is available. The timetable will support daily basic skills such as additional reading, recapping of phonic sounds and basic number skills to help catch children up on learning they may have missed. To support the children with their social skills, in the timetable there will be many more opportunities for speaking, listening and sharing of feelings etc as this is a vital part of developing the 'whole-child'. We pride ourselves in promoting an inclusive and creative curriculum and we will ensure this is still of paramount importance. We will strive to ensure the children have a well-rounded curriculum which supports them on their Shirley Infant School learning journey **also see page 9 and 10.**



## **Will there be a staggered start and end of the school day?**

Yes, see page 4. Implications for families with siblings have been considered. If you have a Junior child and an Infant child they will be able to enter the Infants together. Your Junior child will go through the Office into the Junior school.

## **What provision will there be for Lunches and snack?**

See page 6

## **How will you inform me of any changes through the holidays?**

Please keep looking at the website every Friday through the holidays at least to keep up to date with changes.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Will I be fined if I do not return my child in September?**

It is expected that all children are to return to school on the first day of school in September. There is the only acceptance here is if the a child has a shielding letter, which the school will need a copy of. We will be working very closely with our families who may be in this position in September.

## **Will my child loose learning time if you are staggering the school day?**

Your child will not loose any learning time due to us staggering the drop off and pick up at the end of the school day. We will be adjusting break times and lunchtimes to ensure the full teaching hours are present in the school day. This is working within the guidance from the Government in July 2020.

## **What will happen if a case is found a school?**

As per our current risk assessment if we are to have a confirmed case then we would close the bubble that the person was in. This means all the children and adults in this class bubble would need to self isolate for 2 weeks.

If this happens we will then move back to home learning for this class bubble. We are currently working with google classrooms to ensure we have the system up and running in this case. Your child's learning and virtual lessons would be set on this. We are still in the early stages of this so further details will be shared with you in September.

## **Will my child bring home reading books and library books?**



We are afraid this is not possible due to the risk assessment which is in place. Paired reading will work really well. This is where you read any book with your child for example, the Bear Hunt, The Hungry Caterpillar, The Tiger Who Came to Tea etc. The adult reads the book and then the child taps the page when they see a word or sentence they can read. They tap again when they've finished and the parent carries on. The child would then tap again when they want to read.

Comprehension also massively supports a child's reading and writing skills. You can focus on the inference skills of reading for your child and asking questions about what happened when...? What do you think will happen next? How would you feel if this happened to you?' etc. All of these skills develop a child's reading and would support their skills over the summer and into the Autumn term

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **How will I know what to work on to help my child with their reading?**

We will send home a half termly target card and update you using marvellous me.



## **What will happen if my child is ill?**

If your child is sent home due to COVID symptoms we will ask you to take your child for the test. Your little one will not be allowed back into school until you have confirmed the outcome of this test. Work will be loaded to the school website so they can continue their learning whilst awaiting the result.

We ask that you monitor your children closely with any illnesses coming back in September.



## **Will there be breakfast clubs and after school clubs on offer?**

We are still working on this with our club providers and will be in touch with you as soon as we can.



## **Will there be whole school celebrations?**

We will not be able to have whole school or class celebrations for some time. This also includes singing and music sessions. With this in mind we are not planning on being able to have a Christmas performance this year. We will be coming up with new ideas to be able to have a celebration for this time of year instead.

The classes will be having class assemblies to ensure our coverage of our curriculum is still covered. Mrs Gregory, Mrs Watts, Mrs Lubbock-Smith and Mrs Nutbeam are practicing their onscreen voices for live streaming instead.

## **What if my child attends a child minder or before/after school provision?**

We are currently awaiting further advice on this as the current guidance is not clear on what precautions and wrap around care is ok. We are liaising with HAMWIC and the LA for further guidance on this.



## **Drop off and collection at school each day**

We need to continue the staggered start and end to the school day. This is so we can safely bring the community into school so that social distancing can still be adhered to. If you have children in multiple year groups you can bring all of them at the earliest allocated time. i.e. if you have a Year R and a Year 2 child they would come in at 8:45.

We ask that you bring your child/ren at the following times:

**8:45 Year 2**

**9:00 Year 1**

**9:15 Year R**

### **Collection:**

**2:45 Year 2**

**3:00 Year 1**

**3:10 Year R**

We know it is difficult but please only arrive at your allocated drop off and pick up time. It makes it very difficult for us to managing the queuing and the train system at pick up otherwise. We ask for your patience as we will ask you to step out of the queue or go back round if you are early.

We will ask you to queue 2 metres apart down the road towards Winchester road. You will be asked to say goodbye to your child/ren at the double yellow gates and they will be supported by staff to walk into school. This system has been working really well since we opened to Year R and have had the Critical workers in school since March. If you go to our website and click on Home Learning our COVID social story is there to help your child understand the changes. It has worked well for Year R this term.

For collection of your child/ren you will repeat the queueing system at the allocated times. A member of staff will open the yellow gate and you will be asked to walk across the playground on a train. As you walk your child will be sent to you. Please do not approach the staff. We ask that you keep moving and exit the playground via the black gates. Please then cross the road to walk home on the opposite side of the pavement.

If you need to talk to your child's class teacher please email in your question/query and they will get back to you. Please email:

[info@shirleyschools.co.uk](mailto:info@shirleyschools.co.uk)

We also ask in the home school agreement we will be sending out to you that only one adult does the drop off and only bring siblings if you have no one else at home to look after them.

Parents and children are encouraged to walk or cycle to school, however we will **not** be able to store bikes and scooters on the premises. The use of public transport in line with the government advice is to avoid this if you can or you must take protective measures.







## Uniform



The government guidance state that children should be back in school uniform. This has been in place since June when Year R returned. This is a white or yellow polo shirt, grey shorts or trousers or grey skirt or dress. We only ask that the children have a school sweatshirts or cardigans with the school logo. These can be purchased from Skoolkit in Totton or from Tesco by ordering on-line at <https://www.tesco.com/direct/shirley-infant-school/8414.school?source=others>. Schoolkit are only currently taking online orders, however, please note there is a two week wait.

We will be doing lots of physical activities however we are not able to change the children. **Therefore we will allow children to wear trainers into school in Autumn 1.** You may wish to put children who wear dresses or skirts in cycling shorts underneath. Please DO NOT Send your child in with a PE kit.  

## Lunchtime

We ask that your child brings their lunch in a paper bag that can be recycled or if they are bringing a lunchbox that it is plastic so it can be disinfected each day. We will not be running hot meals for Autumn 1. You child can choose:



- To bring in their own pack lunch
- Order a school pack lunch—sandwich, drink, fruit, biscuit
- Order a small grab and go option—this is a small hot snack—see separate menu for each day. There is only one option a day

Lunchtime will be set up differently for Autumn 1. The children will stay in their classes for lunchtime with their class teacher or Teaching Assistant. If they have ordered a packed lunch or grab and go this will be delivered to the classroom. Children will be on a rota basis for their lunch and outside side. Lunchtime will be split into 3 sections.

Part 1 directed physical activity

Part 2 eat lunch

Part 3 free play

This will look slightly different each day as we safely give each class time outside.

## Snacktime



Please provide your child with a healthy snack of Fruit or vegetable only. **Please remember we are a NUTFREE school.**

## So the main things to remember are:



- Come to school at your year groups allocated drop off time
- Pick up your child at your Year groups allocated time
- Wear school uniform
- Wear trainers instead of school shoes in the Autumn one
- Bring a water bottle—named everyday
- Bring a packed lunch or order a school pack lunch
- Bring a piece of fruit or vegetable for snack time
- Siblings can come into school together at their earliest year group time
- Year 1& 2 start school on Monday 7th September 2020
- Year R begin the week 14th September 2020 see separate timetables

## Working Together

We know these times continue to bring challenges to our daily lives and that everything causes more thinking through and planning. We do truly know how hard this is as we are in this with you too.

We are still always willing to speak to you if you have any issues, concerns or questions. If you would like to speak to your child's teacher or any other member of staff at any time, please make an appointment by emailing or calling the School Office. We will get in touch with you via a phone call or email.

We are all looking forward to working through this together in our family community. We can not wait to have you all back!

Cate Gregory  
Headteacher





## How will my child be supported in September

This year has been a very different journey for our children and the community, We know that it has brought many challenges for our families. Please remember you have all been in very different situations in your households. It is important you do not compare yourself to another family as everyone has had different difficulties along the way. You did not sign up for home schooling and you have all done brilliantly with the home learning you have managed to do around working too. All the home learning will stay on the website and you can pick and choose little bits if you would like to go back to any. We would like to reassure you for September that as teachers we are very used to planning differentiated activities to support children at the different stages of their learning. This situation will be no different for us. The staff have been working hard on our recovery curriculum and we are ready to support your little ones from the stage of their learning. Please do not compare to others, we will be able to guide your little one in the Autumn term from their starting point when they are back with us back in September.

The Team always aim for our children to:-

- Be happy, settled and enjoy coming to school
- Feel safe and secure
- Be socially confident and make new friends readily
- Relate confidently to adults in school
- Ask questions, investigate and develop an enjoyment of learning
- Face new experiences and challenges with enthusiasm
- Have opportunities to be creative and imaginative
- Develop increasing independence and a sense of responsibility
- Make good progress in all areas of learning - emotional, social, physical and intellectual

This September will be no different it will just be exemplified. We will have a nurture time each day which encourages children to explain how they are feeling. We have been running these sessions since June and the children have responded to them amazingly. This will be a session in addition to everything we are doing.



## How will school look different?

The children will come into school on their own through the yellow school gates. They will be met by one of the office staff and either Mrs Gregory, Mrs Watts, Mrs Nutbeam or Mrs Lubbock-Smith (Mrs Prior) . They will then be greeted by their adult on the classroom door as normal.

We will have the classrooms set up slightly differently for our Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2). This will be as follows:

- Children will be sat at their own table
- Children will have their own basket of key resources.
- Children will keep their belongings on their chairs or under their tables.
- Children will have an allocated toilets to each class bubble to minimize cross infection. Staff attend the toilet with the children and they are cleaned after each use.
- All toys and equipment that are shared will be cleaned after each use and safely used again.
- Children will need to continue good hand hygiene. They will be required to hand gel their hands on their way into and out of school. The children will use the Happy birthday song to check they are washing their hands correctly. We recommend you buy some hand moisturizers for their hands at home.
- There will be a one way system through school which the children will be shown how to use by their class teacher. There will be minimal movement around the school. Any shared rooms will be cleaned down in between classes.
- We can still comfort your little one through 1 to 1 time and will work out the best way to comfort your child.
- Lunchtimes and playtimes outside will be staggered to ensure safely class bubbles do not mix.
- Children will not be able to bring home books. We ask you continue to use Oxford Owls online tool that we have been using since March. Your teacher will inform you of their colour sequence by mid September, after they have been assessed.
- There will be no large events planned for the whole of Autumn term. This means there will be no in school celebration events, parents evenings and no Christmas large performances (We will be thinking of new ways to have these celebrations with your little ones).



# TEACHER COVER

Teachers are entitled to 10% PPA time for planning, preparation and assessment. Teachers take this this time as a year group, enabling them to plan together to ensure consistency across all classes. During this time, our PPA cover team will lead the class for creative time, working on exciting Art and Design Technology projects.

This term we had to shut the school on a Friday lunchtime as the government did not permit cross over of staff between 'bubbles'. The July guidance has currently changed and we are allowed to cross staff. We will absolutely being doing this to the minimum to protect the staff and the children's class bubbles. This will be heavily detailed in our risk assessment which is approved by HAMWIC.





# Helping your Child at Home



We would love you to continue to support your child at home and this will really help with provision we will be offering and guiding your child through. Examples of these are:

## Reading



We are afraid it will not be possible to send books home due to the risk assessment which is in place. Paired reading will work really well. This is where you read any book with your child – for example, the Bear Hunt, The Hungry Caterpillar, The Tiger Who Came to Tea etc. The adult reads the book and then the child taps the page when they see a word or sentence they can read. They tap again when they've finished and the parent carries on. The child would then tap again when they want to read.

Comprehension also massively supports a child's reading and writing skills. You can focus on the inference skills of reading for your child and asking questions about what happened when...? What do you think will happen next? How would you feel if this happened to you?' etc. All of these skills develop a child's reading and would support their skills over the summer.

Your child will be asked to learn a bank of tricky words from each phase of our phonics teaching. Please encourage your child to recognise these words by sight. You can do this through a range of fun activities such as snap, Kim's game, word hunts around the house etc. Your child will also receive a range of phonic activities to support him/her with sound recognition. These activities will differ depending on your child's ability and year group.

## Handwriting



Handwriting support will be a little harder for us as we will not be able to guide their hands. Practicing learning to form letters is a tricky business and can take some time. We ask you help us to help support your child with developing a good pencil grip and developing their fine motor skills so they can hold a pencil with good control. We may also send home letter formation practice activities to help build your child's confidence in forming their letters correctly.

## Maths



Maths is often forgotten about as a subject to support your child with at home. In every year group curriculum letters are loaded to the website at the start of each half term. This informs you of the concepts we are teaching during the current half term. You can then focus on supporting your child practicing these skills at home. We will also send home a maths challenge every term for you to enjoy together with your child.



# Helping your Child at Home



We have a range of activities we send home to support your child's learning in different areas of the curriculum. These are activities where you can if you wish continue to build on their learning in school. Examples of these are:



## **PSHE Activities (Personal, Social Health and Emotional Aspects of Learning)**

PSHE has always been fundamental through our school. We have always been highly praised by visitors and Ofsted across all of our reports. This year will be no different to any other will just exemplify it even more. Your little one is going to have a lot to take in so why don't you help them tell you about their day using these questions?

1. **What was the best or worst part of your day today?**
2. **What was the funniest thing you saw today?**
3. **What was the best part of lunch?**
4. **Which part of your classroom do you think I would like best?**
5. **Which activity at school today was your favourite or least favourite?**
6. **What made you feel happy today?**
7. **Who did you help today? Or who helped you today?**

This should hopefully change from when you ask your child "what have you done today"? you usually get the answer 'nothing' or "Who did you play with today"? They respond 'No one'. Practice them over the holidays at teatime.



## **TRY THIS: DFE Activity Passport The Summer Holiday Challenge**

The DFE launched this passport last year and we thought it was so lovely we wish to promote the activity passport that you can do with you little ones again.

Please follow this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/my-activity-passport>

We can all struggle at times with the holidays and trying to fill the time with low cost activities to keep us all busy. There are some lovely ideas that you can do.

Happy making and hunting!



We have made an amendment to our behaviour policy during this period of COVID. If you wish to see this amendment you can view this via the school website. We will continue to promote through our restorative practice and rights respecting ethos.

**Meet our friends:**

This is Rights Rhino – he will remind us of our rights as children



This is Respect Rex – she will remind us of how we respect these rights



UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights and we will be joining a community of over 4,000 schools in the UK working on the Rights Respecting Schools Award. Right Respecting Schools across the country have reported that that the Award has many positive impacts including improved relationships, well-being and self-esteem, leading to better attendance and improved learning.





# School Rewards

We will still continue to praise your little one using our school systems. We will have stickers in their baskets which they can pick up themselves or teachers will be passing them on a special ruler.

## **Behaviour Chart**

If your child comes home with a smiley face sticker this means they have got to the really happy side of our behaviour chart. They need to be at this point at the end of the day and they will then come home with a blue, red or green sticker like this:



Please remember if they have stayed on the middle or got to the happy side then this means they have still had a brilliant day. The sticker means they have had an extra good day. We are looking for good behaviour choices to move them up on the chart (please see the behaviour policy on the website if you would like more detail on this).

## **Learning Styles**

These are our soft skills that we value very highly. School council voted for our 4 key learning values that we have adopted. These values are Perseverance, Co-operation, Independence and Curiosity. We have an allocated puppet to each learning value that the children can collect and take back to their classrooms. Alongside this, the staff and puppets will look out for children who are demonstrating a value and they will share their achievement with the Senior Leadership team. We love to see the children and listen to them telling us why they have achieved the learning value and then receive their sticker. The characters who represent the learning value are :

- Iggy encourages independence skills
- Cowan and Colana encourage Co-operation skills
- Cubert encourages curiosity
- Perse encourages perseverance
- Heartwell encourages looking after each other



So if your child is seen to be demonstrating one of our values the Senior Leadership team will send home a Marvellous Me text to share with you. They will also receive one of these stickers in their books when they have demonstrated a learning value within their work, play, friendships and achievements. The office has a supply of cards with pictures of the puppets included for your reference if required.

## **Star of the week**

We have a celebration assembly every week normally in the children's year groups. This will happen initially in classrooms until the bubbles area allowed to grow. Here we celebrate birthdays, outside achievements such as swimming or sports certificates. Alongside this, each class has a star of the week. Here the children receive a certificate which recognises a special achievement to them. They get to come up in front of their year group to receive their certificate and badge. The badge looks like this:



# School Travel Plan



We are committed to the safety of our children on our roads and to further this we have implemented a travel plan to help the children on the roads in and around the school. **CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THIS BY WALKING TO SCHOOL EACH DAY.**

We have teamed up with Southampton City Council and Modeshift STARS to create a new travel plan for those attending our school.

A working group has been initiated between staff, governors and parents and our ethos is to keep children healthy, active and safe. We ask all parents to sign our school Parking Pledge which is an agreement between pupils and parents to agree to park respectfully in the local area.

We discourage parents from driving down Wilton Road please to drop off your child. We need the roads to be able to socially distance on and if you can avoid this we would gratefully appreciate it. Please do not park on double-yellow lines, over driveways or blocking roads (which have caused problems in the past) and to find places for them to park which will not add time to their journey and be in easy reach of the school.



We have arranged for parents to park in the Range and the local Industrial Estate (Halfords to Pets at Home) providing an easy walk for the pupils to school.

The children have created a brilliant eco-council group to combat issues that arise within the school environment. They also create new schemes to stay eco-friendly.

Shirley Infant School have now, as a result of our Travel Plan, been accredited with Modeshift STARS Gold Level. We are extremely proud to be the first school in Southampton to achieve GOLD.

**We hope that we can continue to work with parents and pupils going forward to provide an even safer environment and happy place for the children.**



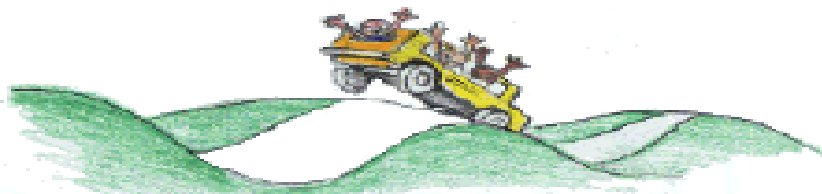


## FAMILY SUPPORT

We firmly believe in working together as a whole school community. Karen is now based in our community room which you can access through the double yellow gates from the Junior children's entrance. She is open 9:30 till 1:00 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday's. Pop and see her if you need support or advice. Karen would normally carry out visits to the home and a coffee session. However at this current time this will not be possible. Karen will be able to arrange a meeting with you safely in school though.



Incase you didn't know: Shirley Infant School employs a Family Support Worker, Karen Allen. Karen normally runs informal drop in sessions once a month giving emotional and practical help and advice to families that are having long or short-term difficulties. This may be helping with bedtime routines, homework or fussy eating, so please come along and find out if she can assist in any way. A key part of her work is to help parents and can be an extra listening ear or help you access different agencies or support services. Karen has supported many of our families and you can ask to see her for a meeting or catch her in the playground for quick advice.





# Lunchboxes



At Shirley Infants we continue to strive to promote Being Healthy and Active. We have added this page to help you think of ideas if your child normally has a hot school dinner.

Parents often find it difficult to know what to put in their child's lunchbox and can worry that they will not eat enough or be hungry. To help with this please see our guidelines below.

- Too much in a lunchbox can be daunting for a child
- It is better for children to have a small amount and eat everything
- Lunchtime supervisors are supportive and encouraging
- Lunchtime supervisors inform teachers if a child needs more to eat
- We ensure your child leaves everything in their lunchbox so you can see for yourselves what they have eaten that day
- Teachers will talk to you if they have any concerns about what your child is eating
- Please speak to teachers if you have any concerns

Lunchtimes are seen as a very important social part of the day for our children. It is a chance for them to reflect on their day or talk about things they have done with their friends. We have worked very hard on this area and operate a staggered lunchtime for the whole school. This ensures the children have a calm and relaxing experience.



## LUNCHBOX IDEAS



### Packed lunches should ideally include;

- A portion of starchy food (bread, pasta, rice, crackers, rice cakes, oat cakes, pitta, wraps)
- Two portions of fruit or vegetables
- A portion of meat, fish or other source of non-dairy protein
- A portion of dairy food
- A drink of either water, fruit juice, milk, yoghurt drink or smoothie

#### Alternatives to Crisps

- Savoury Crackers
- Rice Cakes
- Breadsticks
- Vegetables
- Cheese & Crackers

#### Alternatives to Chocolate

- Sugar Free Jelly
- Small Cake
- Small Biscuit
- Fruit
- Flapjack
- Dried Fruit

#### Items not Permitted

- Sugary or Fizzy Drinks
- Sweets
- Large Chocolate Bars
- Energy Drinks
- NUTS of any kind
- Chocolate Spread



(Your child will be asked to keep it until home-time)





Copies of our school policies are available on our website or can be requested from the school office.

## Term Dates for 2020/21

### Autumn Term 2020

Open: Thursday 3rd September 2020

INSET DAY at Shirley Infants on Thursday 3rd September & Friday 4th September.

**Children return on Monday 7th September 2020**

Half Term: 26th October to 30th October 2020

Close: Friday 18th December 2020

### SPRING TERM 2021

Open: Monday 4th January 2021

Half Term: 15th to 19th February 2021

Close: Thursday 1st April 2021

### SUMMER TERM 2021

Open: Monday 19th April 2021

May Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May 2021

Half Term: 31st May to 4th June 2021

Close: Friday 23rd July 2021

SHIRLEY INFANT  
SCHOOL

INSET DAYS

2020/2021

Thursday 3rd September 2020

Friday 4th September 2020

Monday 23rd November 2020

Friday 12th March 2021

**Shirley Infant School, Wilton Road, Southampton, SO15 5LA**

**Tel: 023 8077 5057**

**E-mail: [info@shirleyschools.co.uk](mailto:info@shirleyschools.co.uk)**

**WEBSITE: [www.shirleyinfantschool.org.uk](http://www.shirleyinfantschool.org.uk)**

**GOVERNOR CONTACT: [govs@shirleyschools.co.uk](mailto:govs@shirleyschools.co.uk)**