



Queen Eleanor's Church of England Junior School
An Academy in the Good Shepherd Trust*
Queen Eleanor's Road, Onslow Village, Guildford, GU2 7SD
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Tel: 01483 561323



"A caring, supportive community, grounded in a Christian ethos, where children are inspired to explore their potential and develop skills for life."

Head Teacher: Jo Davies

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Return to School on 8th March

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all keeping well and have all managed to get a break. The teachers were delighted to see the children in their meetings this morning and felt that most of them are rested and ready to start schoolwork again.

I am sure everyone was paying avid attention to the news yesterday and the very positive confirmation that all children will be able to return to school on **Monday 8th March**. This letter is to cover the main guidelines that parents/carers will want to know as we start to prepare for the full re-opening in less than two weeks' time. The main message is that we will return on the same basis as the autumn term, with the expectation that all children attend school. We will review our risk assessment and protocols by the end of this week, but we don't envisage these changing, so expect everything to look the same as it did before the schools closed (staggered drop-offs etc.).

For now, the following items are the things that we expect most parents will want confirmation about:

- **School Clubs:** We plan to have our 'Before School Club' and 'Hoptune After School Care' in place from the first day back. We are intending on starting some after school sports clubs but we will let you know more details about these when we have finalised the arrangements.
- **Free School Meals:** For children entitled to free school meals, we have processed the final voucher payments for this week and next week and then that scheme will end once the children are back in school.
- **Drop off and Pick up times:** These times will be the same as in the autumn term.
Drop off: Years 3 and 5 at 8.45am – Years 4 and 6 at 9.00am
Pick up Times: Years 3 and 5 at 3.15pm – Years 4 and 6 at 3.30pm

Hopefully that gives everyone enough information to start planning for how life will look from Monday 8th March, but please don't hesitate to ask any questions in the meantime.

Between now and the first day back, there are a few other things to consider as the majority of children start to prepare for a return to school after such a long break:

- **Sleep/Routines:** It is more than likely that things are somewhat out of routine for many families, especially after the half-term holiday, so it is worth starting to get used to normal bed-times and getting up times as of now;
- **School Uniform:** As part of getting up in good time, it will also be worth getting back into the routine of not just being up, but being dressed and ready to leave on time. We have not expected the children of Keyworkers to wear school uniform during the school closure but we will expect all children to be in uniform on the 8th March;
- **Anxieties:** Although we expect that most of the children are already very keen to return to school, we also know that it may create some anxiety for children after such a long time out of the routine of school. We will be working in our assemblies to help smooth this transition and will be planning the rest of the half-term very carefully to make sure we cater for any challenges the children might be having. If you have any specific



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concerns about your child/children, please contact the class teacher as soon as possible to raise those concerns as we will do our very best (as always) to provide bespoke support for every child.

As I have already said, please don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions at all, but we will keep you updated with anything else that comes in.

Mostly though, I hope that you are all as excited as the staff are to be seeing all of the children back – we really can't wait!

Kind regards,

Mrs Curtin