

Iron Acton CEVC Primary School
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Headteacher: Mike Riches



26th January 2021

Welcome back

We are pleased and relieved to be able to welcome all children back to school on 8th March as announced by the Government this week. Detailed information is listed below to remind you about our measures in place to keep children, parents and staff safe. We hope this offers you reassurance as you prepare to send your child back to school, but also reminds you of some of things you and your child will need to do.

Many of these arrangements are the same as those in place during the autumn term.

Hands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children will wash their hands regularly for 20 seconds using soap and warm water; hand sanitizer may sometimes be used if necessary Hand washing will take place when children first arrive, after break, before and after lunch as a minimum then at additional points during the school day as required
Face	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face coverings should be worn by adults at pick up and drop off unless you are exempt Staff members will also be wearing face coverings at these times but will not be required to wear them during the school day We will only be allowing visitors to the school if their visit is of an essential nature – visitors will need to wear a face covering
Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bubble system will resume with 3 bubbles in place as before Breaktimes and lunchtimes will continue to be staggered so children will only be able to interact with children in their own bubble Breakfast club and after school clubs will resume every day and children will be kept in small consistent groups where possible, preferably sticking to class bubbles Collective worship will take place remotely most days; children in Barn Owls and Falcons will come to the hall for collective worship on a Monday The one way system in place during the autumn will be reintroduced for pick up and drop off; we encourage children in Buzzards and Golden Eagles classes to be dropped off and collected from the bottom of the hill
Ventilate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Now that the weather is milder we will be able to ensure there is background ventilation in all classrooms This means that windows will be open slightly throughout the day and will be opened further when rooms are vacant



<p>Suspected cases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child and their siblings will need to remain at home and get a test if symptoms develop • If symptoms develop whilst in school, your child(ren) will be accompanied to a separate room in school whilst waiting to be collected • If the adult supporting your child needs to be within 2 metres of them, they will need to use PPE
<p>Other</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child usually takes part in additional interventions with a member of staff these will not take place during the first week back in order to reintegrate children back in to their class environment; interventions will resume week commencing 15th March • Reading books will be sent home as soon as possible and quarantined on return • Please do not come inside the school building unless absolutely essential; the office can be contacted by email or phone

Learning

Every member of our staff team is trained and highly skilled at what they do. They will be working hard to adapt teaching and learning to meet the needs of the children on an ongoing basis when they return. We will not be putting additional pressure on children to catch up rapidly; instead, we will be taking a measured and carefully planned approach, which will begin with reintegrating children into school life and building positive relationships as well as important learning skills. Advice and guidance from our Local Authority advisors will be put into place.

We will be teaching a broad and balanced curriculum ensuring that important subjects like art, music and PE continue to be taught regularly and are not squeezed out in favour of English and maths. Teachers will be continuing to utilise lesson time effectively and efficiently so that every opportunity is used. These are all things that place on an ongoing basis in school and will continue when the children return.

Governor feedback session

The Governing Body for The Pinnacle Schools Federation would like to invite you to join them at an online meeting to discuss, share and understand the important issues about school that effect you. The meeting will be held via Teams (link to be shared nearer the time) on Thursday 18th March at 8pm. Please forward any topics you would like to discuss to the school office by Friday 12th March to inform the agenda.

We look forward to seeing you then.

The Governing Body

Parent / teacher meetings

Appointment times have been shared on your child's Google Classroom. You will receive a Teams invite the working day before your appointment is due to take place. If you cannot access Teams and can only speak on the phone, please email the school office as soon as possible so that this can be arranged.

Your appointment will last 10 minutes. Teachers will need to stick strictly to these time slots and will be unable to run behind schedule.



School meals and snacks

Our current school menu will continue for the rest of this term and school meals need to be pre-booked using Parent Pay as they have been previously.

Snacks will be available from the school kitchen from 8th March. Slices of toast cost 10p each and fruit costs 15p. You are welcome to pay for a longer period and the kitchen staff would appreciate exact monies please, as change cannot be given.

Any food brought to school must be healthy. Morning snacks can include a piece of fruit or a plain biscuit. Children are not able to eat unhealthy foods such as doughnuts, chocolate bars or packets of crisps for their snack.

Walk to School Wednesdays

We will be encouraging everyone, who usually drives to school, to park in the Parish Hall car park on a Wednesday, so their children can walk part way to school for one day each week – this is just a 5 minute walk. Mr Riches will meet you there and point you in the right direction. This will begin on Wednesday 10th March.

Friends fundraising

Friends of Iron Acton School have raised £1,302 (including a donation of £150 from Acton Aid) in the recent Land's End to John O'Groats challenge. Our school community collectively walked a total distance of 978.24 miles, which is 104.24 miles over the required distance of 874. All money raised will go to future projects at the school to support the educational provision for the children. Well done and thank you to all who took part.

Wembley Wanderers

A group of our amazing Year 6 children have recently been raising funds for St Peter's Hospice in Bristol. Over recent weeks they have run, walked and cycled all the way from Iron Acton to Wembley stadium and back virtually – a total of 220 miles! They have raised an impressive £2,410 so far. If you'd like to read more or to make a donation please visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wembleywanderers>

Year 5/6 residential

We are currently liaising closely with The Wilderness Centre about this year's residential visit. It is looking increasingly likely that it will not go ahead in which case a full refund will be provided. We will bring you further information, when it is available.



Winter Grant Scheme

The Winter Grant scheme aims to help meet immediate needs and really support those families who are struggling to afford food and utility bills (heating, cooking, lighting) and water for household purposes (including drinking, washing, cooking, central heating, sewerage and sanitary purposes), or other related essentials.

The financial support could include more practical items such purchase of blankets or more expensive items such as boiler / oven repairs or perhaps even a replacement oven if the existing one is broken beyond safe use / repair.

Parents and carers can contact Citizens Advice Bureau on 03444 111 444 or the Council on 0800 953 7778 Quoting Winter Grant funding.

School Crossing Patrol

Our school currently has a vacancy for a School Crossing Patrol. The details of the post are listed below.

Role: School Crossing Patrol – Iron Acton

Site Location: High Street. By School Gate

Times: 8.30am – 9.05am
2.55pm – 3.25pm

Hourly rate: £9ph

Full training and uniform is provided, we are happy to consider part time and/or job share for further details please contact myself, Martina Byrne-Obee 01454 863611.

Dates for your diary

Event	Date and time	Information
Parent/teacher meetings	01.03.21 03.03.21	See information above.
Return to school	08.03.21 8.55am	
Governor feedback session	18.03.21 8.00pm	Link to be sent nearer the time.
Red Nose Day	19.03.21	There will be an opportunity to children to wear clothes other than school uniform to raise money for this important cause.
Easter service	01.04.21	We hope to hold our Easter service in the church.
Last day of Term 4	01.04.21 3.15pm	
First day of Term 5	19.04.21 8.55am	
May Bank Holiday	03.05.21	School will be closed to children.
INSET day	21.05.21	School will be closed to children.
World Book Day	26.05.21	Children will be invited to dress up this year.
Last day of Term 5	28.05.21 3.15pm	

Please note: these dates may be changed or cancelled if necessary. We will try to provide as much notice as possible if this is the case.

