

SALTFORD SCHOOL OPERATIONAL PLAN AT-A-GLANCE FROM SEPTEMBER 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the announcement about changes to national pandemic restrictions from 19th July and the subsequent DfE guidance for schools, we are now able to share this at-a-glance summary of our plans for the new school year (providing there are no changes to the proposed roadmap, or local restrictions).

The more detailed operational plan – which includes a pick-up and drop-off guide and a new risk assessment – will be shared with you as soon as possible, before the end of this school year. We, of course, have a contingency plan should we have infection on site or the government change the guidance to schools. It will be very similar to our operational plan for this current academic year – albeit we will avoid reintroducing staggered pick-ups and drops-offs if at all possible.

The following are the main headlines:

What will be different

- There will be no bubbles; whole-school play times and events, assemblies and mixed-year group clubs can re-start.
- Pick-up and drop-off procedures will be different and you should read our detailed guidelines for your class. We will share these with you shortly. We will not be using the tractor gate at the top of the school field.
- No staggered start or finish times. Children will be required to arrive in the classroom at 8:50am, except new Reception who follow different timings for the first few weeks. The school gates will close promptly at 9am.
- Parents will not be required to wear face coverings on pick-up and drop-off but may choose to. This also applies to staff – especially in confined spaces.
- We are returning to the hall for lunch where children will be seated in their class groups, except Reception who will eat in their classrooms.
- Overall, children and staff will be able to mix more freely across the school when this is beneficial to their educational or social development.

What will stay the same

- Children will enter and exit the classrooms from their drop-off points independently. Children have managed admirably with organising their own belongings on pegs and the calm start to the day has been a benefit to children

- The school car park will be closed at pick-up and drop-off times so that pedestrians can continue to access the gates via the school playground.
- We have been using the whole site at playtimes and lunchtimes, including our three field spaces – this will continue so we have maximum space at playtime and lunchtime. Therefore, to access these spaces fully, children need to have a change of footwear in school. We have bought extra to facilitate this.
- Limited access for visitors, keeping non-essential visits to a minimum. Parent helpers are much appreciated for swimming and book changes and we will continue to follow our visitor protocol.
- Additional hygiene measures including more frequent handwashing and supervised use of hand sanitiser before eating will continue.
- Extra cleaning during the school day.
- Maximising ventilation in the school building.
- We will continue to ask you to keep children at home if they are unwell, being vigilant to symptoms of Covid-19 that go beyond the most commonly known cough, high temperature and loss of sense of smell.
- Support for children self-isolating to access learning will continue via Tapestry / Seesaw or packs of work. Microsoft Teams will be used should we go into full lockdown again.