



Garden Suburb Junior School

Childs Way • London • NW11 6XU



Tel: 020 8455 3269 • E-mail : office@gsjs.barnetmail.net • Website : www.gardensuburbjunior.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Eileen Bhavsar BA (Hons) MSc • Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Lisa Berger BEd (Hons)
Administrator / School Business Manager: Ms Julia Chalfen

5th June 2020

Dear parents and carers

I hope you had an enjoyable half term and that your families are well and staying safe.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be uploaded to our website every week. From next week we will have more teachers working in school with Year 6 pupils and key workers. The staff's work patterns are changing and workloads increasing. Many staff are now teaching in school, planning for home learning as well as maintaining contact with their own classes.

From now on the home learning resources will be removed from the website by Friday lunch time (around 12:30pm) in order to upload the resources for the following week. These resources will be checked and be available for downloading by you by 8:30am on the following Monday.

Key workers and Year 6 Pupils Attending School

For the rest of the term we will be continuing our school for **Key workers** and we are now planning to open the school to **Year 6** from Monday 8th June.

All children attending school will need to follow strict rules on social distancing and hygiene.

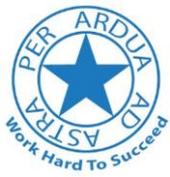
Teaching and learning with social distancing means sitting in rows, apart from class mates as much as possible. The teachers are planning engaging lessons but it will not be like school normally is. A limited amount of resources will be used and there will be no sharing of equipment. Some children will find this difficult and less engaging. We have revised our behaviour policy to take into account the new expectations required for managing children safely in this new situation. We are expecting the children to respond well but you will need to read through, with your child, the revisions that we have made to the Behaviour Policy. This can be found on the website: <https://www.gardensuburbjunior.co.uk/page/?title=COVID%2D19+information&pid=1596>

We are discouraging the wearing of face masks by pupils, as the DfE guidance states that wearing a face covering or face mask in schools is not recommended.

Face coverings may be beneficial for short periods indoors where there is a risk of close social contact with people you do not usually meet and where social distancing and other measures cannot be maintained, for example on public transport or in some shops. **This does not apply to schools.** Schools should therefore not require staff, children and learners to wear face covering.

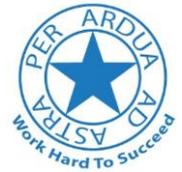
Face coverings (or any form of medical mask unless instructed to be used for specific clinical reasons) should not be worn in any circumstance by those who may not be able to handle them as directed (for example, young children, or those with special educational needs or disabilities) as it may inadvertently increase the risk of transmission.





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We will need to work in partnership with you in order to keep our community safe:

We will expect parents to:

- be vigilant about ensuring that they do not send their child to school if they or any member of their family has been exposed to and/or is not well and/or displaying symptoms of Covid-19, to inform the school and follow all guidance on self-isolation
- to engage with testing. **Testing is now available to anyone with symptoms of coronavirus.** The government has announced that anyone with symptoms of coronavirus is now eligible to book a test, including children under the age of 5 years. Anyone experiencing a new continuous cough, high temperature, and/or a loss of, or change, in their normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia) can book a test. **The school should be informed of any test outcome.** A coronavirus test can be booked here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- be available to collect their children immediately, if asked to do so for any reason
- ensure that children **bring a coat** and **wear school uniform which is washed daily** – we do not expect Y6 pupils to purchase new uniform if they have outgrown items. Please keep to school colours where possible.
- respect social distancing at **drop off and pick up** with restrictions on entering the school site and wherever possible avoid bringing siblings at drop off/pick up
- avoid using **public transport** and walk to school if possible. This will reduce the risk of infection of Covid-19, minimise traffic congestion and increase safety around the school
- if public transport has to be used, ensure social distancing and wear a face covering

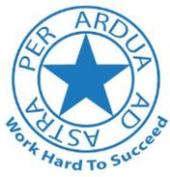
We will expect the children to:

- display a positive attitude, try their best with their work and follow the expectations of behaviour. In particular, in respect to social distancing with each other and the staff
- bring to school with them a **labelled water bottle and no other items.** They do not need to bring a school bag
- to wash their hands regularly and follow increased hygiene guidance

We will expect the staff to:

- be welcoming, positive and deliver engaging lessons
- be vigilant about ensuring that they do not attend school if they or any member of their family has been exposed to and/or is not well and/or displaying symptoms of Covid-19
- engage with testing for Covid-19
- avoid using public transport wherever possible
- follow all guidelines in respect to health and safety and increased cleaning/hygiene
- use PPE in certain circumstances eg when social distancing is not possible and in the medical room





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We will do everything we can to minimise the risks, but I cannot promise that the risk will be zero. The government guidance to schools recognises that “unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2m apart from each other and staff”. However, we will do what we can to social distance as far as possible, as well as the measures listed above.

Our risk assessment can be accessed on our website:

<https://www.gardensuburbjunior.co.uk/page/?title=COVID%2D19+information&pid=1596>

Opening to Year 6 Pupils

I wrote to Year 6 parents again this week with details of our plans.

- The year group will be split into a maximum of eight groups (depending on the number of pupils that attend) with approximately 10 children in each group and no more than 15. The groups will not mix with each other.
- 8 classrooms will be used and your child will always use the same room.
- A maximum of four groups will attend in the morning and four groups will attend in the afternoon. Unfortunately, this means that most of the children will not be taught by their class teacher.
- None of the Year 6 groups will stay for lunch, as we want to limit the potential of contact with each other as well as hand to mouth contact.

There will be no school for Year 6 on Wednesdays as this day will be used for additional cleaning and planning for the teachers.

If you are not planning to send your child to school and at a later date change your mind, please contact the school office to request a place. However, your child may not be able to start until the following week.

Key worker families please note that from Monday 8th June all children will be expected to wear their school uniform.

The staff have worked hard to prepare for the return of more children to school and we are looking forward to welcoming back 51 of the Year 6 pupils next week.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Eileen Bhavsar | Head Teacher

