

September Re-opening for all Children
28th August 2020

Joint letter for the families of Cuckoo Hall and Woodpecker Hall

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be aware, the Government have stated that all schools in England must reopen from the beginning of the academic year. This means that all children from Nursery to Y6 must attend school. Y1-Y6 will start on **Monday 7th September**. Reception and Nursery parents have already been allocated their individual start dates.

I know many parents will be worried about sending their children back to school but I hope that this letter to the families of both schools, together with the video for Cuckoo Hall which you can watch [here](#) and the video for Woodpecker Hall which you can watch [here](#) reassures you of the safety measures and precautions we are taking to ensure your child's safety and well-being in school. The safety of children, staff and our families is our number one priority.

The Headteachers from all of the four primary schools across the Trust have worked together to plan how best to do this and have put the health and safety of all our children, staff and families at the centre of all our discussions and decisions. The Trust and Headteachers have carried out a thorough risk assessment to ensure everyone's safety. This risk assessment will be reviewed and amended weekly to ensure best practice is maintained in our schools.

In agreeing the plan, we are closely following [all DfE guidelines and national safety guidance](#). As leaders, we are responsible for making the right decisions for our schools

- ❖ We want to get children back into school because we know it is not only the best place for them to learn, but it is also better for their well-being in general
- ❖ We are determined to help children catch-up and get back on track as soon as possible
- ❖ We want to support parents to be able to return to work following what, for many in our community, will have been a stressful time financially

Drop Off and Pick Up

The table below shows the location and times for drop off and pick up for both schools. Please arrive within the allocated times as this will ensure school is not overcrowded at peak times of the day. Please stand 2 metres apart as indicated by the floor markings.

Due to staggered timings, Cuckoo Hall and Woodpecker Hall will have, during Covid-19, the same school times.





Y1-Y6 parents will drop their children off at the allocated school gate in the morning.

Nursery and Reception will drop off at the Reception and Nursery playground doors.
For pick-up all year groups will enter the school through Mottingham Road gates for Cuckoo Hall and Gate 1 (main gate) for Woodpecker Hall, and follow the one way system.

If you have children in more than one year group, then you must drop off and pick up at the allocated time below.

Cuckoo Hall Academy				
Year Group	Drop Off		Pick Up	
	Gate	Time		
YN	Dartford Avenue	8am/12:00pm	Mottingham Road	11:00am/3pm
YR	Dartford Avenue	8:20am-8:35am	Mottingham Road	3:00pm
Y1	Mottingham Road	8:20am-8:35am	Mottingham Road	3:00pm
Y2	Mottingham Road	8:20am-8:35am	Mottingham Road	3:00pm
Y3	Cuckoo Hall Lane	8:20am-8:35am	Mottingham Road	3:00pm
Y4	Mottingham Road	8:40am-8:50am	Mottingham Road	3:10pm
Y5	Mottingham Road	8:40am-8:50am	Mottingham Road	3:10pm
Y6	Cuckoo Hall Lane	8:40am-8:50am	Mottingham Road	3:10pm
Multiple year groups	Mottingham Road	8:50am-9:00am	Mottingham Road	3:20pm

Woodpecker Hall Academy				
Year Group	Drop Off		Pick Up	
	Gate	Time		
YN	Dartford Avenue	8am/12:00pm	Mottingham Road	11:00am/3pm
YR	Dartford Avenue	8:20am-8:35am	Mottingham Road	3:00pm
Y1	Gate 3 (Old YR)	8:20am-8:35am	Gate 1 (Main)	3:00pm
Y2	Gate 2 (Office)	8:20am-8:35am	Gate 1 (Main)	3:00pm
Y3	Gate 1 (Main)	8:20am-8:35am	Gate 1 (Main)	3:00pm
Y4	Gate 1 (Main)	8:40am-8:50am	Gate 1 (Main)	3:10pm
Y5	Gate 3 (Old YR)	8:40am-8:50am	Gate 1 (Main)	3:10pm
Y6	Gate 2 (Office)	8:40am-8:50am	Gate 1 (Main)	3:10pm
Multiple year groups	Gate 1 (Main)	8:50am-9:00am	Gate 1 (Main)	3:20pm

Safety Measures

The school takes the safety of your children and the safety of our staff very seriously. Over the past few weeks we have all been working very hard to carry out detailed risk assessments and put in place all possible measures to ensure everyone's safe return to school and school based learning.

In school we have planned and prepared the following:

Daily Good Behaviours



- Teachers will promote 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' with all children.
- Children will wash their hands every hour.
- Social distancing will be maintained around the school buildings.

In the Classroom

- Children will mainly stay in their class bubble with the class teacher and teaching assistant.
- Children will stay within their year group bubble and will not mix with other year groups.
- Children can sit together but all children will be facing forwards.
- Children will be allocated their own personal stationary.
- All classroom equipment used will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of each day.
- Each class has their own supply of disinfectant and all surface will be cleaned throughout the day.

Movement Around School

- Movement around school will be limited. Children will follow social distancing and use the markers on the floor to support this.
- All communal areas such as corridors have been adapted to show the 2 metre rule.
- Year group bubbles will be allocated their own personal space in the playground and will be reminded to maintain social distancing as much as possible.
- Additional hand sanitisers have been installed throughout the school and children are encouraged to use these.

Lunchtime

- Each year group bubble has been allocated a hall space and time for lunch.
- The children will follow the one-way system.
- All surfaces will be cleaned before the next year group bubble enters the space.
- Classes will enter one at a time.
- Children will sit side by side and face forward.

Additional Cleaning

- Additional cleaners have been appointed to clean the school throughout the day.
- Toilets will be checked and cleaned every hour.
- Additional adults will support with cleaning in the lunch halls.

Breakfast Club and After School Care

Woodpecker Hall and Cuckoo Hall will jointly be running this provision from the beginning of the year. Both of these provisions will take place in the Cuckoo Hall dinner halls. Children will be organised into two groups. *Group 1:* YN, YR, Y1, Y2 *Group 2:* Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6.



As year group bubbles will be mixing we need to ensure that the groups are consistent. This means that we will not be able to add any additional children to the provision once this is established until after the October half term break.

If you require Breakfast Club or After School Care, then please book your place before September. You can contact the school office to book your places. Children in both provisions will be asked to maintain social distancing at all times.

Well-Being and Catch-Up

The staff and I have missed your children greatly and we can't wait to see them all again. We know that children may be a little worried about coming back to school and about Covid-19 in general. Consequently, we have put in place a programme of support to address any issues they have with their emotional well-being and mental health. Your child's well-being is our top priority.

We know that parents have done their very best to continue with education at home but for many this has not been easy as you have had to juggle many factors. Thank you for working with us during this period.

Many children will have fallen behind in their learning throughout the lockdown period and as a school we have been thinking of ways in which we can help children catch-up quickly. This may involve additional lessons after school or possibly during the weekend. Please look out for letters that will invite your child to one or more of these sessions.

All staff can't wait to have your children back in the classroom and we will strive to get back to some kind of normal for your children as soon as possible.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the school office.

Kind Regards

Nicky Ross
Headteacher
Woodpecker Hall and Cuckoo Hall Academy
CHAT Leader of Primary Education