



Reopening 8th March 2021-Frequently Asked Questions

1	Attendance at school
	<p><i>Will my child be returning to school on 8th March?</i></p> <p>Yes, your child will return to school full-time on Monday 8th March 2021. The Government issued guidance which confirmed their plan that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from Monday.</p>
	<p><i>Will my child have to go to school?</i></p> <p>Yes. The usual rules on attendance now apply – school is mandatory again from Monday unless medically stated otherwise.</p>
2	Whole School Approach
	<p><i>What is the Government's intent and plan for all children to return to school full time from Monday 8th March?</i></p> <p>It continues to be based on a twin strategy of limiting contact between pupils and implementing hygiene measures (these are described in more detail in section 3(a) (System of controls) below). Contact between individuals is to be limited in schools. Contact is to be limited in two main ways: 1. By ensuring pupils remain in consistent groups ('bubbles') wherever possible, thereby minimising the number of contacts between different people across the school 2. By maintaining distance between individuals wherever possible ('social distancing'). Please see section below for further details.</p>
	<p><i>Will Danson be following the Government's intent and plan as outlined above?</i></p> <p>Yes. Danson will be adhering to the Government intent and guidance.</p>
	<p><i>How will children be grouped?</i></p> <p>The children will continue to be grouped in Year Group Bubbles. These Year Group Bubbles will mean we will be able to deliver a full curriculum and operate effectively. E.g. the organisation of break times, lunchtimes etc.</p>
	<p><i>Will there be social distancing within bubbles?</i></p> <p>The DfE has recognised that strict social distancing will not always be possible, especially children will not be able to maintain social distancing, and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group." All schools, in particular primary schools, are encouraged to take a realistic and pragmatic approach in this regard. This may include reminding children of the need to give each other space where possible; some schools may consider using a simple 'no touching' approach to help children understand the need to maintain distance. However, the reality is that to fit all pupils in a classroom, they are likely to be in close proximity. The DfE has accepted that pupils will need to be sat close to each other in most classrooms (The DfE recommends that pupils sit side-by-side and do not face each other if this is possible).</p> <p>If older children can maintain social distancing, they will be encouraged to do so. The DfE states "for children old enough, they should also be supported to maintain distance and not touch staff where possible." If this is possible for older children in primary too, that is to be encouraged, but as the DfE has made clear, it is not an essential requirement. The DfE has stated that pupils passing each other briefly in a corridor or playground (e.g. walking past each other) is a relatively</p>



Reopening 8th March 2021-Frequently Asked Questions

	'low risk', but that schools should try to avoid large groups of pupils mixing together in these spaces at the same time.
	<i>Will the Bubbles be expected to keep away from other Year Group Bubbles? E.g. Will the Y1 Bubble be kept away from Y6 Bubble?</i>
	Yes. We cannot guarantee but will do our very best to ensure Year Group bubbles remain separate from each other at all times.
	<i>Can staff move between Bubbles?</i>
	Yes. The DfE has said that teachers/staff are permitted to move between bubbles. While it is advisable to minimise movement if and where possible, the reality is that this will not always be possible. This also means that sports staff/ Higher Level Teaching Assistants/supply staff can teach across different groups and bubbles.
3	Safety at School
	<i>What protective measures will be in place at Danson?</i>
	We will follow a system of controls which are grouped into 'prevention' and 'response.' https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/964351/Schools_coronavirus_operational_guidance.pdf
	Prevention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school • clean hands thoroughly more often than usual • ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach • introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach • minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible • where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
	Response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • engage with the NHS Test and Trace process • manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community • contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice
	<i>Are staff going to wear PPE equipment?</i>
	DfE guidance has said that the majority of staff in schools will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work. PPE will be needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where an individual child becomes ill with COVID-19 symptoms while at school • Where a child has intimate, special or medical care needs • Where a child requires first aid such as nose bleeds
	<i>Does my child have to wear a face mask?</i>
	The DfE have stated ' Primary school children <u>will not need to wear a face covering.</u> ' As we are not medical professionals we will follow the guidance provided and will also leave this decision open to parental choice and subsequent correct behaviour choices of pupils. Please note staff will not support children with placing, removing or storing masks.



Reopening 8th March 2021-Frequently Asked Questions

	<p>The DfE have stated; <i>'Based on current evidence and the measures that schools are already putting in place, such as the system of controls and consistent bubbles, face coverings will not be necessary in the classroom even where social distancing is not possible. Face coverings would have a negative impact on teaching and their use in the classroom should be avoided.'</i></p>
	<p><i>Will staff be wearing facemasks?</i></p>
	<p>The DfE have stated, <i>'In primary schools, we recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff and adult visitors in situations where social distancing between adults is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas). Children in primary school do not need to wear a face covering.'</i></p> <p>And</p> <p><i>'To ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances'</i>.</p> <p>Facemasks must be worn by all parents/carers/visitors when entering school site unless you have a medical exemption. If this is the case, please contact and inform the school office. We would also recommend when queuing outside the school gates at drop off and collection times that facemasks are worn if you are unable to remain socially distant to those who are in front/behind you.</p>
	<p><i>What happens if there is a positive case at Danson?</i></p>
	<p>The school will work fully with the health protection team in this situation to guide the school through the actions they need to take.</p> <p>Current advice-Those who are positive must inform the school and follow the 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection' (updated 15.2.2021) and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than a cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or loss of smell can last for several weeks once the infection has passed.</p>
	<p>What do I do if my child or someone in my household becomes unwell or tests positive for Covid-19?</p>
	<p>It is so important that if your child or anyone else in your household becomes unwell or tests positive for Covid-19, they do not come to school and that you notify the school immediately via the school office on 02083031858 or via our new email address C-19queries@danson.bexley.sch.uk.</p> <p>Anyone presenting with the symptoms of Covid-19; a high temperature, a new continuous cough and a loss of, or change in sense of smell and taste (anosmia) should not attend school and should follow current Government Guidance-<i>last update 15th February 2021.</i></p>
	<p><i>What happens if Danson has to close due to a local outbreak of Covid-19?</i></p>
	<p>The school will work fully with the health protection team in this situation to guide the school through the actions they need to take and share this with parents depending upon the current government guidance issued.</p>
4	Curriculum
	<p><i>What will the curriculum look like?</i></p>
	<p>At Danson, we will not use terms such as catching up or falling behind as these phrases can bring on negative feelings and emotions. We intend to celebrate all our children's achievements</p>



Reopening 8th March 2021-Frequently Asked Questions

during lockdown. We intend to strengthen and consolidate their prior learning and address what our pupils need to help them move forward in their learning journey.

Just as children responded differently to lockdown, they will do the same returning to school. Some will be delighted to back in the routine of school, being with their class teacher, the attention they receive and the contact with their friends. Others may struggle giving up the freedom of home and the attention of family.

When the children return to Danson on Monday we will continue to put their well-being at the heart of our curriculum. We understand our pupils will have had different experiences during this time. However, the common thread running through all is the loss of routine, structure, friendship, opportunity and freedom.

Many of our children may return to school disengaged, anxious or worried. They may have regressed, lack self-confidence, or feel confused. This is something that we need to immediately address. We want to help our pupils to come back into school life, acknowledging the experiences they have had. We want our children to be happy, feel safe and able to be engaged in their learning.

We have decided that a way to achieve this for the children is to acknowledge the importance of helping them return to school life through using 'recovery conversations' (as was done in September) alongside our PHSE/mental wellbeing programme which will provide a scaffold for our children to talk about their experiences and explore the following themes:

A Sense of Community

- Helping pupils reconnect as a school community, recognising the important part each individual play. Looking at learning behaviours and the school values.

Rebuilding Relationships

- Refocusing on friendships and positive relationships within school.

Re-establishing Routines

- Ensuring people settle back into school life, adjusting well to necessary changes.

Respecting Space and Social Distancing

- Establishing a 'new normal' in relation to proximity and personal space

Experiencing Loss – Supporting children to manage their feelings and behaviour

- Supporting pupils as they struggle to understand their emotions

Excellence and Enjoyment

- Support children to feel they can succeed; fun times focusing on physical health and well-being to rejuvenate positive endorphins and help children want to engage and reignite their passion for learning.

Parents will also receive an attachment '*Simple tips to help children who might be a little bit nervous in their first week back.*'



Reopening 8th March 2021-Frequently Asked Questions

5	In the classroom
	<p><i>Will there be assemblies or any other type of gathering?</i></p> <p>We have been advised that there should be no large gatherings bringing different groups together, e.g. whole-school assemblies. However, we will continue to use video assemblies and other resources within the classroom.</p>
	<p><i>Do children in the KS1 and KS2 have to sit in rows facing the front?</i></p> <p>The Department for Education's (DfE's) guidance suggests that pupils sit facing the front is one measure schools could take; it is not mandatory. The idea is that by not having pupils facing each other directly (i.e. facing the front instead), it reduces the risk of spreading the virus via respiratory droplets. The school will carry out risk assessments to determine the measures we will put in place to reduce risks.</p>
	<p><i>Do children in the Early Years have to sit in rows facing the front?</i></p> <p>No. Danson will not be adopting this approach for the Early Years children and Year 1 children.</p>
	<p><i>Can staff still deliver 1:1 interventions with pupils?</i></p> <p>Yes, they can. Staff who are working with pupils across different bubbles are advised to take additional precautions. For example, remaining 2m apart if possible and avoiding close face-to-face contact and use of visors and screens.</p>
	<p><i>Will there be school trips?</i></p> <p>There will be no school trips in Spring and Summer term, this will be reviewed for next Autumn term.</p>
6	Structure and Organisation
	<p><i>Will there be part time rotas in place?</i></p> <p>No. Plans will be based on a full-time provision for our children. However, children will have staggered start and finish times to keep different Bubbles apart as they arrive and leave Danson. We will aim to ensure that the total amount of teaching time your children receive remains the same e.g. an earlier start would mean an earlier finish.</p>
	<p><i>What time will school start and end for my child/phase?</i></p> <p>Please refer to documents sent via email on 4.3.2021 for this information. Alternatively, please go to the school website www.danson.bexley.sch.uk</p>
	<p><i>How will children enter/leave Danson?</i></p> <p>This will be the same procedure as the Autumn Term.</p>
	<p><i>Are parents/carers, visitors allowed on site?</i></p> <p>Wherever possible, schools are encouraged to avoid visitors entering their premises. Therefore, parents/carers will not be allowed on the premises unless they have an appointment or have been invited into the school. Only one parent should enter the school site to collect their child.</p> <p>In instances where we will need to use other essential professionals, such as social workers, speech and language therapists or counsellors, or professionals to support the delivery of a child's education, health and care (EHCP) plan, schools will need to assess whether the</p>



Reopening 8th March 2021-Frequently Asked Questions

<p>professionals need to attend in person or can do so virtually. If they need to attend in person, they should closely follow the protective measures in the setting, and the number of attendances should be kept to a minimum. Where possible to do so, social distancing should be maintained.</p>
<p><i>Will my child have a hot meal at lunchtime?</i></p>
<p>No, packed lunches will be provided to those children who qualify for Free School Meals, Universal Infant Free School Meals and wish to pay for a school dinner. Separate information on this has been sent out by the school 25.2.2021.</p>
<p><i>Will my child have to wear their school uniform?</i></p>
<p>Yes, all children must wear their school uniform <u>and appropriate school footwear.</u></p>
<p><i>Can my child bring a bag/lunch box to school?</i></p>
<p>It is recommended that children limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day to essentials. Lunchboxes and water bottles only are permitted. Please do not send in book bags.</p>
<p><i>Will the before/during/after school clubs and activities be running in March?</i></p>
<p>The DfE has stated that ideally schools would keep to the bubbles used during the school day, but recognised this might not be possible. It has stated that "if it is not possible to maintain bubbles being used during the school day, then schools should use small, consistent groups." Information has been sent out to parents and bookings have been made for these-Please contact the office to check if there is any availability.</p>
<p><i>Use of childminders?</i></p>
<p>Please ensure your childminder has their own Risk Assessment and is following Government expectations in terms of systems of controls based on age of children in attendance, numbers of children, minimising mixing of families and have a written list of children in each group for at least 21 days for Test and Trace purposes. Should there be suspected case in the childminding bubble then that individual has to self-isolate for 10 days from the commencement of symptoms and testing is encouraged. If the test is positive, all members of the bubbles will have to self-isolate for 10 days and advice will be sought from PHE for children attending Danson Primary. Please ensure your childminder/child minding company are fully aware of Danson's Covid-19 routines/organisation and safeguarding expectations when they enter the school site.</p>
<p><i>Will there be any Parent / Teacher Consultations in the Spring Term?</i></p>
<p>Virtual meetings will occur before the Easter break. More information will be sent out in due course.</p>
<p><i><u>Please note the information above is accurate based on current guidance as of 3.3.2021.</u></i> <i><u>Please note this may change based on any further government changes/amendments.</u></i></p>