

Dear Parents/Carer

We're really excited to welcome you back to the playscheme and our playworkers can't wait to see the children again.

Things may look a little different this year, but we're confident that our playscheme will be as fun and action-packed as ever, whilst taking appropriate measures to keep everyone safe.

Councillors were very keen to open up the playschemes again, but staff will be following Government guidelines and putting protocols in place to keep everyone as safe as possible. Therefore, it is important that if your child is unwell, or anyone within your household is displaying COVID-19 related symptoms, they DO NOT attend the Playscheme and should self-isolate. In addition, if anyone in your household has been contacted by NHS Test, Trace and Protect as a 'close contact', you must isolate at home and follow their guidance.

If your child starts to display COVID-19 related symptoms whilst attending the playscheme, you will be required to come and collect your child immediately.

Key measures in place:

To minimise the risk of infection, we will be taking the following measures:

1. The playschemes will be split into two bubbles so that we can minimise the risk of mixing of groups. Each bubble will have two playworkers and the Play Leader will not be attached to any bubble and will not enter into any of the bubbles. Maintaining distinct groups or 'bubbles' that do not mix makes it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may need to self-isolate.
2. You will be informed which bubble your child will be in before the playscheme starts and children MUST adhere to those bubbles. Siblings will be placed in the same bubble. We will ask on the parent/playscheme contract who your child's friends are, but, unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that your child will be with current friends.
3. Each bubble will use a different entrance/exit and you will be informed which entrance/exit to use before playscheme starts.

4. Each bubble's drop-off and collection time will be staggered and you will be informed of these times before the playscheme starts.
5. One parent/carer only to fetch the child to playscheme.
6. Please wear a face covering during drop-off and collection and maintain social distancing if there is a queue.
7. Unfortunately, parents/carers will not be permitted to enter the school.
8. Please do not arrive before until your allotted drop-off and collection time and please do not congregate with other parents/carers.
9. Your child must bring their own packed lunch and labelled drinks bottle. Please remind them that they must not share their food or drink with anyone else.
10. All lunch packaging should be taken home and not left at the playscheme.
11. Children cannot bring their own toys/bikes/scooters etc with them, but there will be plenty of play equipment at the playschemes.
12. Staff and children will sanitise their hands more often than usual, this includes on arrival, before and after activities and before and after using toilet/washroom facilities.
13. Play equipment will be cleaned regularly, including at the beginning and the end of each day.
14. Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned more often than usual.
12. There will be an increased frequency of cleaning of toilets.
15. Whenever possible, the children will be outdoors. This will allow for greater social distancing and better ventilation.
16. If, during the playscheme, your child becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell, they must stay at home and you should follow the COVID-19 guidance for households with COVID-19 infection guidance.

17. If your child becomes unwell whilst at the playscheme, a member of staff will call you immediately to come and collect them. Whilst your child is awaiting collection, they will be kept separately from others by a distance of at least two metres. When you collect your child, you should take them straight home; do not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital. In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. Your child should then self-isolate for 10 days and you should arrange a test for them as soon as possible to see if they have COVID-19. You can do this by visiting NHS.UK or contact NHS 119 via telephone if you do not have internet access. You and other fellow household members should also self-isolate until the test result is known.
18. If your child tests negative, they can usually return to the playscheme and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation, subject to confirmation from local health protection professionals. However, if your child tests negative but is unwell, they should not return to the setting until they are recovered.
19. If your child tests positive, NHS Test, Trace & Protect will speak directly to those that have been in contact with your child to offer advice. This advice may be that the rest of the bubble within the playscheme should be sent home and advised to self-isolate. Household members should always self-isolate at home.
20. A COVID-19 symptom-checker must be signed by parent/carer prior to admission to the playscheme. In addition, any unplanned absences may cease attendance at the playscheme at the Play Leader's discretion and again, COVID-19 symptom-checker questionnaire completion would be required prior to return. Any planned absences should be notified to staff as soon as possible.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT YOUR CHILD MAY BE ASKED TO SELF-ISOLATE AT ANY TIME, WITH NO NOTICE, IF THEY ARE DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH A POSITIVE CASE. ALSO PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PLAYScheme MAY BE CANCELLED ALTOGETHER AT ANY TIME, WITH NO NOTICE.

Please consider all of the above restrictions before signing up your child.

We know the playscheme may look a bit different this year due to COVID-19 protocols, but we do look forward to seeing you all for a bit of summer fun!

PTE Community Councillors