



Department for Children, Adults and Health

Parents and Carers of South Gloucestershire  
Maintained Primary, Special and Secondary  
Schools and Academies

Date: 08/09/2020  
Your Ref: Covid-19  
Our Ref: Covid-19 Update  
Enquiries to: CAH  
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Dear Parents and Carers

### **September 2020 School Return**

As a Council we are delighted that all our schools, maintained and academies have opened for a full return of children and young people. The feedback we have received from Head teachers and parents and/carers has been exceptionally positive and this should pave the way for a successful Autumn Term. As a Council we would therefore like to thank you for your support with the return, it is appreciated.

Central to our Council plan is the health and wellbeing of our children, young people and staff and ensuring that what is planned in school happens at the right time and at the right pace.

We know our school leaders have been working tirelessly in their planning for the September re-opening. Individual school plans have been developed, will reflect the communities served and the age and stage of each child and young person. The school plan is based upon the latest Public Health and Council guidance, an understanding of the pupils and their learning needs alongside the nature of school buildings which will be very different.

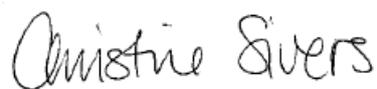
One of the areas that is central to the school return is the safety of our children and young people on the way to and from school. This is where we need the most support from you as parents and/carers. All schools will have communicated with you information around start and finish times, the importance of social distancing and in ensuring that adults do not congregate particularly at school gates and entrances. We want to reaffirm the importance of these messages, especially those in relation to social distancing, so that we can work together to ensure we all do everything to protect adults and our children and young people. We know that schools are busy places and want your help in supporting us in keeping everyone safe; so ask that social distancing remains of the utmost importance.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that if anyone in your household becomes unwell with a new and continuous cough, high temperature or a loss or change to their normal sense of taste or smell, they should stay at home and self-isolate for at least 10 days from the start of their symptoms and immediately arrange to have a COVID-19 test. Everyone else in the household should also stay at home and self-isolate for at least 14 days from when the first person in the household started having symptoms. Further information on symptoms of COVID-19 and how to get a test if you have symptoms is available on the NHS 111 website.

As we move through the Autumn Term, we know that schools will continue to work with you in ensuring that our children and young people can once again thrive both socially and academically. Please continue to work with us, especially in ensuring social distancing and in supporting the Public Health messages.

If you do have any school related queries, please contact them in the first instance and we wish you all well for the Autumn Term.

Yours sincerely



Chris Sivers  
Director of Children, Adults and Health



Sara Blackmore  
Director of Public Health