



# Avondale Preparatory School

*Ignite Your Purpose, Become Your Potential*

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## Operating Procedures to Prevent the Transmission of Covid-19, January, 2021 (Outbreak Management Plan)

Whilst the Christmas break may have provided a 'circuit breaker' for children in terms of transmission of COVID- 19, it will come as no surprise that the government has reviewed the latest guidelines, in view of a surge in cases of the new Omicron variant across the country; advice has changed that will affect our operating procedures, along with ALL schools. These changes effectively dispel the need for social distancing amongst children, but aim to limit the amount of 'close' contact, children have with one another across the school. This document outlines Avondale's approach to minimising the transmission of the virus and forms part of the risk assessment.

Whilst we appreciate that there are a number of families with siblings in classes across the school, from January, children will be placed in two 'bubbles'- Prep (Yrs 3-6) and Pre- Prep (EYFS and Yrs ½). Children will effectively only have contact with children within their bubble. This arrangement will allow the school to operate in the normal fashion with very little disruption to learning programmes or the structure of the school day. The only real implication for this new arrangement is children in Year 3 will not be permitted to swim until further notice. They will, instead, have a further full afternoon of games.

It is our intention for fixtures with other schools to continue, but this is dependent on a reciprocal stance. For 'away' fixtures, children will not enter buildings. There will be no match tea at the conclusion.

Whilst all overseas excursions have been put on hold, it is our intention for the Prep Production to go ahead as planned in the final week of the Spring Term; this will be dependent on Government guidance at the time.

## Within classrooms and the school grounds

- All teachers who frequent different bubbles of children throughout the week will be required to wear a facemask when going between bubbles and when in communal areas.
- All visitors to the school will now be required to take a lateral flow test. This includes peripatetic and part- time members of staff who frequent other schools. ALL parents wishing to enter the school grounds will also be required to take a test. Those who test negative will be required to wear a face covering whilst on the school premises.
- Should a child be sent home with a temperature or persistent cough, they will be required to have a PCR test; proof of a negative result will be required before the child can return to school, or the usual 10- day isolation period will be required. This can be reduced to 7- days with proof of a negative lateral flow test on arrival.
- Should a child within a class be required to self- isolate due to a positive test, ALL children within the class will be given a lateral flow test pack (containing seven) to test themselves daily at home prior to coming to school each day; siblings of the affected child will also be given test packs. The exception to this is children in the Tots/ Nursery classroom (based on advice from Public Health England). Others within the bubble (but not the class affected) who wish to test at home can request a pack from the school office.

## Arrival and Departure from School (8-8:30am/ 3pm (3-4 year olds)/ 3:20pm (Rec- Year 6)

All children will continue to play outside in the mornings. There will be cones set out, splitting the netball court in half; Prep will play on the side closest to the school kitchen with Pre- Prep playing on the side closest to the Nursery.

Nursery and Tots children will go directly to their classroom. Reception children will hang their belongings up and play in their designated outside space. They will be supported by Mrs Sheryl Davis each morning.

### Entry/ Exit

Nursery/ Tots- entry through the bi-fold front door

Reception/ Years 1/2- Blue gate

Prep (Years 3-6)- Blue front door. In the interests of safety, please use the footpath on both sides of the small blue gate and clear the area promptly on pick- up.

## **Assemblies**

-Assemblies are discouraged, following advice from Public Health, South West. However, we intend for the assembly structure to operate as planned, with performances/ teachings being fed into classrooms via Microsoft Teams. Class assemblies will be performed in the usual way with links being provided for classes and parents to join us online.

## **Breaktimes (snack and lunch breaks)**

- All children will be required to wash their hands prior to leaving the classroom for snack/ lunch.
- Children will be seated in the dining room according to year group.
- The structure of breaktimes will remain unchanged.

## **ASCC Operating Procedures**

- Teachers will dismiss classes via their entry/ exit points and then sign remaining children into ASCC using registers that will be distributed each day.
- All children in ASCC will have afternoon tea in the dining room as usual- bubbles will be separated at either end of the dining room.

## **ASCC Pick up points**

Between 3:30 and 4:30pm- Blue gate (good weather)/ Nursery bi-fold front door (wet weather)  
Between 4:30 and 5pm- Blue front door  
After 5pm- Nursery bi-fold front door

Teacher- led clubs- all children will be handed back to parents at the blue gate at 4:30pm. With this in mind, staff are to finish clubs at 4:25pm. Anyone not being picked up, should be handed over to the ASCC team before proceeding to the dining room.