

New Siblands Primary  
Gillingstool  
Thornbury  
South Gloucestershire  
BS35 2EG  
Tel. 01454 866754  
DfE School Number 803/7031  
enquiries@newsiblands.org.uk  
www.newsiblands.org.uk



New Siblands School  
*"Achievement, Belonging, Celebration"*

Valuing every child through fostering independence,  
inclusion, trust, respect and support

Headteacher: Ms Carrie Osmond

New Siblands Secondary  
Easton Hill Road  
Thornbury  
South Gloucestershire  
BS35 2JU  
Tel. 01454 862888

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Re: School re-opening

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with great pleasure that I am able to write to you as we look forward welcoming pupils back to New Siblands on Thursday. The last few months have been challenging for many of you and we hope this marks the beginning of your return to a more familiar way of life. In school, we will be focusing on supporting all of our pupils to re-establish routines and relationships through our recovery curriculum.

Of course, things will not operate in quite the same way as they did before lockdown. We will be following government guidelines, using a system of 'bubbles' with increased cleaning and hygiene protocols. PPE will be used for care routines and where a risk assessment has identified a need for this. Please be reminded that social distancing within the bubbles will not be possible, and we will instead focus on reducing contact between bubbles. We will not be asking secondary aged pupils to wear masks as they travel around the school, but adult supervision will ensure that social distancing in corridors is observed. All meetings will be conducted virtually and only essential visitors will be admitted to the school. For the time being, there will be no off-site trips (other than very local, socially distanced walks), work experience, swimming or hydrotherapy. This will be regularly reviewed.

**Please support us to stay safe and keep the school open by:**

- **Keeping your child at home** if they, or anyone in your household experiences possible COVID-19 symptoms: **a high temperature; a new continuous cough; or a loss of taste or smell.** Tests can be booked via: <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name> or by calling 111
- **Responding to phone calls** from New Siblands and being available to collect your child, should they develop symptoms in school
- Supporting your child to **wash their hands** when they leave home and arrive home
- Supporting your child to **change out of their school uniform** on arrival at home
- **Washing their uniform** daily or as regularly as possible
- Contacting us by telephone, rather than visiting

**Some things to remember:**

- Pupils on school transport will arrive and leave at the usual times

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- Pupils being brought in by parents/carers will arrive at 9.30 and leave at 3.00 to reduce congestion in the car park
- Initially, all children need to bring their own labelled snacks and drinks / water bottle for morning and afternoon break.
- Providing a full bag of pads is preferable to sending in the daily quantity in a school bag.
- School bags should be washed regularly

For two of our students, we have to continue to offer of home learning package, as we await advice on PPE for medical procedures require. This is an issue for special schools across the country. We are working with the local authority to resolve this issue as soon as possible and get them back into school. This link takes you to an article in the Guardian covering this <http://www.theguardian.com/education/2020/aug/31/special-schools-england-government-coronavirus-advice>

Thanks in advance for supporting us to keep everyone in our community safe. We look forward to a safe and happy return to school.

Yours faithfully,

Carrie Osmond

Headteacher