



A NEW YEAR...

Nurseries Guidance: September 2020





MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE HEADMASTER

I hope that you and your families have enjoyed a wonderful summer. Following our successful reopening last half-term, we are looking forward to welcoming all children and staff back into our nurseries. While the reopening last term was something of a leap into the unknown for Cumnor House, we begin the new academic year in the knowledge that our procedures are road-tested and robust.

My ambition as we reopen again for the Autumn Term is twofold: to ensure that we arrive as close as possible to 'business as usual' for our children – for this is what they now require – whilst taking sensible steps to keep our school community safe and happy as we continue to successfully adjust to this 'new normal'.

We do so because it is vital for the children of Cumnor House to now resume (or begin) their education with us.

Some of you may have read the words of Professor Chris Whitty, England's Chief Medical Officer, over the weekend, in which he spoke of the "overwhelmingly clear evidence that the chances of children dying from Covid-19 are incredibly small", before adding that "many more children are likely to be harmed by not going to school than harmed by going".

In the pages ahead you can read about our plans from September and how we are taking heed of the latest guidance from the Department of Education (DofE). As a result, we will continue to correctly place an emphasis on the use of bubble groups rather than socially distanced learning and play although, of course, we will remain very active in ensure that the children regularly wash their hands and take the necessary steps to remain safe and happy.

Finally, a very warm welcome to all of our new parents as you embark upon an exciting journey at Cumnor House that will culminate with your children leaving either our Boys' or Girls' preparatory school having secured their destination senior school. You will no doubt find Cumnor House to be a vibrant and inclusive community over the decade ahead, in which a culture of kindness meets a love of learning – for its own sake.

I am thoroughly looking forward to getting to know you all over the months ahead.

Executive Headmaster, Cumnor House Group of Schools



WELCOME BACK

Our plans for safe nursery provision this academic build upon the measures put in place during the Summer Term. We have listened to our parents' feedback, closely followed national government guidelines as they have been updated and continue to build on learnings from other Cognita schools across the world.

As a result, children across the Cumnor House group of schools will be placed in consistent groups - the 'bubble' concept, which will be kept apart wherever possible. Due to the pupil numbers within our South Croydon and Purley nurseries, we are pleased to be able to operate a bubble apiece for our South Croydon and Purley nurseries, although we would respectfully ask that you do not enter the nursery buildings unless you have been authorised to do so by our Head of Early Years, Mrs Eloise Upfold (eloise.upfold@cognita.com).

The schedules for our South Croydon and Purley nurseries are highlighted on the next page and are effective from Friday 4th September 2020.



A SAFE START

Nursery Site	Drop-off and Pick-up Timings	Further Details
South Croydon Nursery (Nursery children)	<p>Breakfast Club – 7.30-8.00am</p> <p>Drop-off – 8.00am-9.00am*</p> <p><i>* Please contact the Nursery Manager, Miss Clark, in advance if you are delayed beyond 9.00am, before calling the Nursery upon arrival to be let onto the site.</i></p> <p>Pick-up 1: 3.00-3.30pm</p> <p>Pick-up 2: 4.15-5.00pm and</p> <p>Pick-up 3: 5.30-6.00pm</p>	<p>Follow signage.</p> <p>Please follow signage/staff direction to Silver Birches and maintain social distancing if queuing behind another family.</p> <p>Collection from outside of the classrooms.</p> <p>Collection from outside of Silver Birches.</p>
Purley Nursery (Nursery & Reception children)	<p>Breakfast Club – 7.30-8.00am</p> <p>Drop-off – 8.00-8.30am*</p> <p><i>* Please contact the Nursery Manager, Mrs Farrugia, in advance if you are delayed beyond 9.00am, before calling the Nursery upon arrival to be let onto the site.</i></p> <p>Nursery Pick-up – 3.00-3.15pm and</p> <p>Reception Pick-up – 3.15-3.30pm</p>	<p>Follow signage.</p> <p>Please park on Woodcote Lane and walk your children to the nursery gate, where they will be collected by our Nursery staff.</p> <p>Please wait at the gate, where your child will be brought to you by our staff.</p>

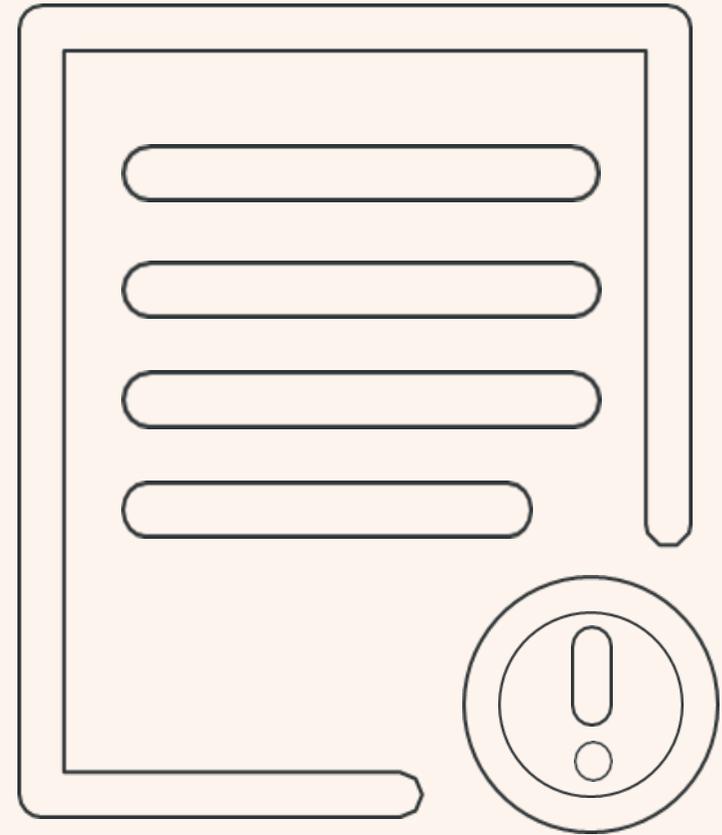
POINTS TO NOTE

Household health:

- Please continue to monitor the health of both yourself and your children, and encourage the habit of regular handwashing.
- Do not send children into school if they, or any other member of the household, show any symptoms associated with Covid-19.
- Any child or member of staff who develops symptoms during the school day will be sent home immediately.
- If you have returned from a holiday in a country upon which the government has recently imposed quarantine measures, please contact the Head of Early Years, Mrs Upfold, as soon as possible and prior to your child's attendance at nursery.

School drop off and pick up:

- Where it is prudent to do so, our nurseries will operate a one way system around the respective sites, which may include different entrance and exit points within the learning spaces.
- Our nurseries will take every possible measure to mitigate against our nursery community of children, teachers and parents congregating in large groups within, or immediately outside, the school grounds.
- Please support our nurseries by respecting social distancing when gathering with fellow parents and communicating with our nursery staff, ensuring that you make a prompt exit from our nursery grounds when you have collected your child.



THE NURSERY DAY



Cleaning, catering and transport have all been thoroughly reviewed over the summer with additional measures being put in place to enhance the safety of our pupils, parents and staff.

OUR CLEANING REGIME

We have a robust cleaning regime throughout the Nursery day with a focus on bathrooms and high-touch areas. Our cleaning hours have been extended. At the end of the day, we repeat this regime and pay particular attention to the common areas of the school, as well as engaging in a weekly enhanced clean of the Nursery spaces..

In the instance of a confirmed COVID-19 case, we would do a deep clean which includes all surface areas and carpets. In all cases we use coronavirus-approved disinfectants/aerosols. A Fogger (a means of spraying an antiviral disinfectant solution to surfaces) will be deployed across our Nursery sites to support the enhanced cleaning.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

Hand sanitiser will be available upon entering each learning space. Children will be supported in washing hands or using sanitiser every time they change rooms or return from outside play.

FACE COVERINGS

Government advice does not currently recommend the use of face coverings in schools. We understand that some parents might still wish their son/daughter to wear one whilst in school and we will not be preventing them from doing so, so long as they are wearing it consistently and sensibly. We will ask individual children to remove their face covering if these are causing any disruption or issues in school.

SWIMMING

For swimming, we are following guidance issued by Swim England for pool operators.

CATERING

Our catering offer returns to relative normality this term. The kitchen will be open and serving meals and the children will remain in the secure 'bubbles' throughout mealtimes.

EQUIPMENT

For equipment-based lessons we are following the guidance issued by the accredited bodies for schools. All equipment is cleaned after use.

Whilst our pupils can continue to take books home, please do not bring your child to Nursery with any pens, pencils or stationery items. As ever, these are provided for your child at Nursery. At this time, we would discourage your child from bringing toys or 'comforters' to school. Should this create an issue, please contact the Head of Early Years, Mrs Upfold, at eloise.upfold@cumnorhouse.com.

TRANSPORT

Our minibus vehicles, which are sometimes used by Reception children for swimming or key school events, have been installed with Perspex screens to shield contact between the driver and children.

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

These continue to be a crucial part of the school experience and we are endeavouring to return these activities safely back into the school day in due course. Many of these activities can and will be delivered within our secure Nursery 'bubbles'. We will continue to follow government advice as soon as it is updated.

SUMMARY OF KEY CHANGES

1. Talk to your child about the updated measures and the expectations outlined in this guide
2. Do not send your child into school if they, or any other member of the household, show any symptoms associated with Covid-19
3. Please talk to your child about sensible behaviours to reduce viral infection and ensure regular hand washing
4. Take note of any changes to the timings of the school day for your child
5. Ensure that you are prompt for drop-off and collection, contacting nursery staff in the event of delay



The wellbeing of our pupils, parents and Nursery staff continues to be our priority as we return to school. We wish to make sure that the children in our care are supported individually and continue to benefit from an exceptional education.

Our Wellbeing Charter is designed to embed a culture of wellbeing across our schools, to evaluate and monitor wellbeing, and to ensure availability of high-quality resources and guidance. We identify six major contributors: Sleep, Diet, Physical Activity, Connecting with Self and Others, Finding Fulfilment in Activities, and, Compassion and Guidance.

MONITORING WELLBEING

In both our Boys' and Girls' Schools, we will begin the Autumn Term with the deployment of a pastoral assessment and tracker tool called AS (Affective Social) Tracker. This pioneering tool is already used across UK independent schools to support the mental health of over 30,000 students from the age of 8-18. It elicits the 'pupil voice' to track social-emotional development, so that each pupil is given the right academic support, at the right time, in the right way. An online assessment is completed by the pupil twice each academic year. The aim is to equip students with the skills to make wise choices in different contexts and relationships, and promises to offer great support to your child once they have transitioned in one of our Cumnor House preparatory schools.

SEND PROVISION

We are delighted to confirm that our SEND provision is entirely unaffected at this time and so we will be able to offer our typical high-quality support in full accordance with the latest government guidance.

For a full set of family wellbeing tips and resources please visit www.cognita.com.



Watch our 'Return to School' vodcast with Professor Tanya Byron

RETURN TO SCHOOL WELLBEING



Global Be Well Day
25 September 2020

As previously, our curriculum will collapse for the day to allow a programme of wellbeing events to take centre stage across Cumnor House.

FAQS



WILL THERE BE AN INCREASE TO TUITION FEES THIS ACADEMIC YEAR?

No. Given the exceptional circumstances, the economic situation and the value we place on our relationship with our parents, there is and will be no tuition fee increase for the 2020-21 school year.

ARE SPORTS, CLUBS & TRIPS RETURNING?

Yes, wherever possible. We are keen to return to 'business as usual' and this component of education is vitally important to Cumnor House.

As a result, the overwhelming majority of our clubs will now re-start, including non-contact sports. We have also planned for our wraparound care offer of before and afterschool clubs.

Whilst we are currently not permitted to run residential trips, we are now allowed to reintroduce our domestic trips and plan to do so. We will continue to keep a sharp eye on government guidance on these topics, as it is ever-evolving.

WILL FIXTURES BE RUNNING?

We have provisionally scheduled in all sports fixtures for the Autumn Term, but a final decision on their feasibility will be made as close as possible to these events, to ensure that we can act upon the evolving government guidance.

WILL SCHOOL TRANSPORT RESUME?

Yes. We are following government guidance closely and would once again request that all pupils using Home to School transport wear face coverings during the journey to and from school. Whilst face coverings will not be required during the school day, we will again also require face coverings to be worn by the small proportion of children who use our shuttle bus service to be transported between the Boys' and Girls' Schools. If this involves your child, and you wish to continue to use this service, please ensure that your child is dropped off with a face covering.

WILL CATERING RETURN TO NORMAL?

Yes. Pupils will now have access to their typical Cumnor House menus, on plate servings.

Older pupils will, in some instances, eat in a different area of their respective school, but this will be managed safely and efficiently to ensure children can enjoy the usual variety of food options.

WHAT ABOUT INFECTION CONTROL?

We will continue our robust cleaning regime over the academic year ahead, working closely with our cleaning staff to ensure every possible risk mitigation is taken. We have also reviewed our infection control procedures to allow us to track confirmed or suspected cases and to communicate with parents in the smoothest way possible

WHAT ABOUT LOCALISED LOCKDOWNS?

Cumnor House has planned for a range of scenarios, including localised lockdowns. Should this occur, we will respond promptly to ensure continuity of learning. Measures taken include the introduction of one-to-one devices in school for all pupils in Years 3 and above, which will be available over the first weeks of the Autumn Term..



A NEW YEAR...

Nurseries Guidance: September 2020

