



SWANWICK STORY

Friday 3 September 2021

Welcome Back!

Hello everyone! We hope that this very first edition of this year's Swanwick Story finds you all well and that you enjoyed a great summer break with your families. Within this newsletter we hope you will find all the information you need to help your children with a smooth start to the new school year. There are a lot of new and different approaches as we try to get back to some sort of 'normal'. Please do bear with us as we re-establish some old routines. There may be a few teething problems but we will get there as long as we all work together and continue to be mindful that it is 'new' for everyone and everyone is doing their best!

Some of the information will be a repeat of what you have already seen, but some may be new.

What will the new school year look like?

September will be as 'normal' as we possibly can make it, whilst continuing to proceed with caution. Children will no longer be in bubbles, and can learn and play together. Classes can mix, and we will be able to hold whole-school assemblies. However, at first we will hold 'hybrid' whole-school assemblies whilst we re-train the children about the expectations and get them used to all being in one space again.

We have the ability to re-apply any or all measures as part of our **Outbreak Management Plan** which would enable us to scale measures up or down in response to local changes.

Remember, we now have class names for each room. If you can't remember which class your child is in, you can find the class and teacher names here:

[Class Names](#)

What time will school start?

We will continue to have a rolling arrival time. Please note, this will revert back to **between**

8.45am and 8.55am. We ask that children arrive on time for a successful and positive start to the school day.

Children who are in Reception will be able to be accompanied to their classroom by a parent.

Children from Y1-Y6 will be expected to make their own way to their classroom from your chosen gate. There will be plenty of staff around to start with to help your child navigate their way around school.

When is my child's collection time?

Reception – 3.10pm

Y1 & Y2 – 3.15pm

Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 – 3.20pm

Please note that we will be keeping our one-way system as it really helps the flow of pedestrian traffic around the school site.

You can find all of our maps here if you want to find out where to go and wait for your child in September:

[School Maps](#)

Please be respectful to our neighbours on the school run. We ask that you drive and park safely and legally, avoiding using the school gates to turn around in or parking on the yellow lines – or the middle of the road. Our school site is quite crowded at the end of the day, so we would appreciate it if only one adult collects children wherever possible.

What should my child wear?

You can find out all the information you need about our uniform, including what your child should wear on PE days here:

[School Uniform](#)



SWANWICK STORY

Please remember that there will be a **strict PE uniform** expected so that we all look smart every single day.

PE Uniform Days

These days may change from time-to-time based on our use of sports coaches, but we will always let you know in advance of any changes.

Class	PE Days
Conkers & Acorns (R)	Friday
Elm & Ash (Y1)	Monday & Wednesday
Birch & Pine (Y2)	Tuesday & Thursday
Maple & Cedar (Y3)	Thursday & Friday
Willow & Hazel (Y4)	Monday & Wednesday
Sycamore (Y5)	Wednesday & Thursday
Rowan (Y5)	Thursday & Friday
Oak & Chestnut (Y6)	Tuesday (Swimming on Fridays in the Autumn Term)

What about school dinners?

Everyone will be eating dinner in the school hall.

Please find the menu here (it does say Spring/Summer but does extend into October):

[Menu](#)

We ask that you make sure you pay for meals via Parent Pay in advance of your child taking a meal.

Should I still wear a face covering on site and social distance?

Anyone who chooses to wear a mask on site, or who wishes to social distance (staff or parents), can choose to do so if they wish. All we ask is that you respect others' wishes and that if someone asks you to social distance, then please support their needs.

There are certain cases where face coverings are still recommended. For example, if we have an outbreak in our school, a director of Public Health might advise us that face coverings should temporarily be worn in communal areas or classrooms.

Good hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, cleaning regimes and ventilation of space will still be expected. Children and parents should not come into school if they are displaying symptoms and any children who attend school and develop symptoms, however mild, will be sent home.

Will my child be restricted to a 'Bubble'?

NO! Wherever possible, we will try to work as normally as possible, unless we have to implement our Outbreak Management Plan in response to local or national changes.

Medicines in School

If your child needs any medication, then please bring it to the South Street gate on **Monday 6 September** where **Mrs Blaydon** will be there to receive it. It would be much appreciated if all items are clearly labelled and a **new, signed parental consent form is completed**. The forms can be found on our website **here**:

[Medicine Request Form](#)

Please note, a signed parental consent form should be filled out for all medications including inhalers and Epi Pens.

What equipment/clothing do children need?

Children will need a water bottle and may bring in a healthy snack of fresh fruit or vegetables. One snack will be provided for EYFS and KS1 children. There is no longer a restriction on the type of bags children bring. Please do be mindful though that our cloakrooms can be tiny and very overcrowded!



SWANWICK STORY

Can parents/carers come into school?

Initially, we are still trying to limit the number of visitors into school to err on the side of caution. We must take small steps here to mitigate any problems which may arise. We are trying our utmost to ensure that the areas inside school remain sanitised as thoroughly as possible, and having other people in school risks compromising that. If you need to contact school staff, you can do so by phone or email using our contact details. We will be holding pre-organised meetings with outside agencies and some parents. We ask that all visits into the school are pre-arranged.

COVID-19 Related Information follows:

What will happen if a child begins to show coronavirus symptoms while in school?

The child will be taken to a well-ventilated room. Their parents will be contacted and asked to take them home, and arrange a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test for the child. PCR tests are those which are sent off to be analysed in a laboratory. The child must self-isolate until they get their results. Other members of the child's household without symptoms do not need to self-isolate if:

- They are under 18 years and 6 months of age.
- They are over that age, but they have been fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since their final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS.
- NHS Test and Trace has not told them to self-isolate.

The child's class will be able to remain in school, whether the test result is positive, negative or inconclusive. If the test is positive, parents of children in the class will receive a letter to let them know about the situation, but there will be no action they need to take.

What if a member of a child's family becomes symptomatic?

The symptomatic person must get a PCR test.

Other members of the household without symptoms do not need to self-isolate if:

- They are under 18 years and 6 months of age.
- They are over that age, but they have been fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since their final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS.
- NHS Test and Trace has not told them to self-isolate.

The child will be able to come to school whether their family members' test result is positive, negative or inconclusive, unless the child develops symptoms themselves.

Will I be contacted by NHS Test and Trace?

Government guidance states:

"From Monday 16 August unvaccinated young people up to the age of 18 years and 6 months and fully vaccinated adults, are no longer required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19.

"Those identified as a close contact will be informed by NHS Test and Trace that they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We

strongly encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. There is no requirement to self-isolate while awaiting PCR test results and so individuals can attend their setting as usual."

Could a class (or the whole school) still close?

In the case of a local outbreak, the school could be asked to close by Public Health England (PHE). These are uncertain times, and the infection rate in Amber Valley is still buoyant.



SWANWICK STORY

If we travel abroad, will my child have to self-isolate?

Information regarding returning to the UK from abroad is on the government's website [here](#).

If a class or the school has to close, will school switch to remote learning?

Yes - the staff members who work with the class(es) affected will provide remote learning activities and feedback via Microsoft Teams.

Mr Cartwright is ensuring all accounts are set up for new year groups and new starters to the school.

Will parents' evenings be taking place on the school site?

There will be more information about that shortly. We are hoping to do this in a suitable way.

What are the children learning in school?

Please find some information about our curriculum here:

[Curriculum](#)

Communication

Communication is very important to us and we always try to get it right by responding to things in a timely manner and not communicating a 'ping' to your phones too frequently.

Some important contacts:

Telephone: 01773 602268

E-mail: info@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk

breakfastclub@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk

ppod@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk

covid@swanwick.derbyshire.sch.uk

(Please use to inform us of a positive case for your child)

We know there might still be some questions you have, but please bear with us as we get started on the new term. We are keeping everything crossed that 'normal' really is the new normal!

***Have A
Great
Weekend*** 

Wishing you all a fabulous weekend.

A big thank you to all of our amazing staff for all of the hard work they have put in to preparing a beautiful school ready for your children.

See you all on Monday!