

March 2021 - Return to school

Frequently Asked Questions

Can my child bring their rucksack/bookbag into school?

Children are able to bring in one small rucksack type bag for their reading book only, that can be hung simply on the back of a chair. No additional items (toys, books etc) from home please.

If your child is going to First Class Football after school, they may bring in a change of clothes and their football boots in their rucksack.

Will my child need to wear school shoes or trainers?

All children should wear full school uniform including black school shoes unless it is their PE day when they should come to school in their PE Kit with trainers. If your child has grown out of their school shoes and you are unable to buy new ones we are happy for them to come to school in trainers during the rest of Term 4 but would expect all children to be in black school shoes by Term 5. Teachers will communicate and let the children know if they need to wear different footwear on other days.

Are school lunches available?

Yes, the kitchen will be preparing school lunches every day. The menu can be found on the website. Children can bring their own packed lunch as before if preferred.

Can my child bring their bike/scooter to school?

We are asking that children do not bring their bike or scooter to school. We will continue to review this.

My children have the same start and finish times but at different gates. Can they come in together at one gate?

If any of your children have the same arrival time at different gates, the elder sibling of those two children can come in with the youngest child at their gate, and then when appropriate in school walk sensibly, maintaining social distancing to their class to limit cross bubbling. Parents are to support by discussing with their children that siblings must walk together and then the necessity to move around the school to their classroom.

If children come in with a younger sibling, they will leave with their younger sibling too.

I am having problems with the staggered drop off and collections? Can my children all come in at the same time even if their arrival times are different?

Unfortunately, siblings with different arrival times will need to come in with their class at the correct time and gate. We appreciate that the staggered start times and different gates are presenting problems for those families with a number of siblings but hopefully the change to year group bubbles has reduced the amount of waiting between start times.

What do I do if we are late to school and miss the drop off time?

Please bring your children to their allocated gate at the correct time where possible. Once the gates are locked there is no access for children unless you bring them to the Banner Farm Road gate. According to our attendance policy, registers will close 10 minutes after their allocated time and any arrivals after this time will be marked as late. Please do bear in mind the previously school drop off was between 8.45am and 8.55am and therefore the new staggered starts only present a 5 minute difference either side.

What do I do if I am going to be late to pick up my child?

If for any reason you will be late to pick up your child, please call the school office as soon as possible to avoid teachers waiting at the gates. Children will then need to be collected at the Banner Farm Road gate.

If my child forgets something can I bring it to school?

As adults are not allowed onsite, we cannot accept late items other than water bottles. If your child forgets their packed lunch, we will order them a school meal.

I need to speak to my child's teacher. Can I catch them at the beginning or end of the day at the gate?

Due to several year groups using the same gate and the limited time in between them entering and leaving the school we ask that you email the office at admin@claremont.kent.sch.uk with any concerns rather than speak to the teacher on the gate. The teacher will then contact you.

After School Clubs

Outdoor after school club providers can start again in Term 4.

Indoor after school clubs and peripatetic music teachers will be communicated with during Term 4 with a view to re-start some activities after the Easter break based on the need to monitor and manage our full return to school and the amount of space available for use.

Before and after school tutoring for children in receipt of PPG will re-start in Term 4. Staff will adhere to COVID rules for working in close contact with pupils.