



› **WE RESPECT, WE ACHIEVE, WE LEARN** ‹

03.03.2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again I am so pleased to be welcoming everyone back to school next **Monday the 8th of March**, after a long winter lockdown. I am fully aware of how hard this has been for so many families and for our children who need to be in school with their friends and teachers. You have been amazing with your support and engagement with home learning and as a result we expect the recovery for the children to be easier. However, many will have found learning from home a real challenge and we are ready to assess the gaps and support the children both academically and emotionally. If you have a specific concern or your child is particularly anxious about the return next week please do contact us via the usual routes and we can set up a face to face meeting with either you as parents and carers or the child themselves if needed.

We are so excited to be seeing the children and to be focussing on lots of nurture and educational support to ensure all children thrive again. When we returned last September we had worked really hard to ensure the site and arrangements in school were as safe as we could possibly make them for the children, the staff and for yourselves. We are implementing the **same arrangements** and we ask that you now take the time to review these and ensure you know what is expected on Monday. We need you to support us again as you always do in making this work.

So lots of information to share with you, some you have already had and some will be new or adding detail. As always we are here to answer your questions, call us or send an email to talktoschool@monkwickinfant.school.

Keeping everyone safe

In order that we all stay safe we now need, children, staff and parents and carers to be extra vigilant about following government restrictions around social interactions. Especially as we move into the various easing of lockdown changes through Spring into Summer. Please ensure you know what is expected in terms of social mixing both outside and inside. It is vital that you follow the rules around household mixing and distancing. Many of us still miss close contact with family and friends but for now we must continue to stay safe until the vaccination programme is fully implemented and levels of virus in the communities are safe again.

Monkwick Infant and Nursery School
School Road|Colchester| CO2 8NN
› Headteacher: Mrs C N Holmes

☎ 01206 573849
✉ admin@monkwickinfant.school

› MONKWICK-INF.ESSEX.SCH.UK
› SIGMATRUST.ORG.UK



Leading Parent
Partnership Award
2020-2023

The Sigma Trust. Registered Company No. 07926573. Registered Office:
Walton Road | Clacton on Sea | Essex | CO15 6DZ. Tel:01255 424266

- PART OF -
SIGMA
TRUST



› **WE RESPECT, WE ACHIEVE, WE LEARN** ‹

Preparing your child to return to school

Some children have been in school since Christmas but for many this is going to be a new start after a long time. Please prepare them for the fact that school will remain as it was before we went into lockdown. You must prepare your children for the fact that they need to distance as much as they can from staff and pupils and that they must stay in their class bubbles in order to keep everyone safe. We will do lots of reminders with them around this, but they will be staying in their class bubbles across the day including lunchtimes and playtimes. They managed this incredibly well in the Autumn term and we were so proud of their resilient response.

We understand that for some they will worry about coming back and we know for others they will be so excited; all reactions are normal in such unusual times. Staff have access to lots of resources to help settle the children and make sense of what has happened and any worries.

We will kindly support them especially in these early weeks up until Easter. We will continue to support children around the 'safe' behaviours that are needed and know that for some we will need to work together with you to ensure your child can continue to follow what is needed.

Coming to school

In order to socially distance in what is a horribly congested area outside our school and the Junior school we ask that you do not drive down **School Road**. During the Autumn term the community supported us with this in nearly every case and we rarely had cars come down. It felt so much safer and we could get the children safely across the road and you could all distance. I thank you so much for your help in this.

We are continuing to operate a pedestrian one-way system to support social distancing and keep everyone safe and this will involve two crossing points for families with their very young children. Parking enforcers will regularly attend **and you may not drop off outside school**. Because of the need to cross twice, it will be unsafe to bring cars down the road. Please support us and **avoid School Rd.** The safest option is of course to walk avoiding public transport unless this is essential.

Monkwick Infant and Nursery School
School Road|Colchester| CO2 8NN
› Headteacher: Mrs C N Holmes

T 01206 573849
E admin@monkwickinfant.school

› MONKWICK-INF.ESSEX.SCH.UK
› SIGMATRUST.ORG.UK



Leading Parent
Partnership Award
2020-2023

The Sigma Trust. Registered Company No. 07926573. Registered Office:
Walton Road | Clacton on Sea | Essex | CO15 6DZ. Tel:01255 424266

- PART OF -
SIGMA
TRUST



➤ **WE RESPECT, WE ACHIEVE, WE LEARN** ◀

You will need to follow the marked routes to ensure all families move in one direction past the school entrances. See the photo below.



Arriving and departing

There will not be any 'early birds' to maintain bubbles staying separate as social distancing is not possible with very young children. However, we have allowed some children of working parents who need to be dropped off earlier to do so as per last terms arrangements. This will continue but must have been agreed by the Head teacher.

We have decided because of the age of our children and space, that we will allow parents and carers onto the school site but as yet not into classrooms. We will have a 'one way' system that takes you past each class door where your child can enter. We will still be operating a staggered start and finish.

When you drop off the first child you will also be able to drop siblings to their class following a strict one-way system. It will be essential that you arrive for these drop off and collection times. **We ask that only 1 adult accompanies the children only and that you do not congregate with any other families whilst on site. School staff will be outside supporting you to follow routes.**

We ask that all adults must wear a mask whilst on the school site delivering their children and picking up. All visitors to school will be required to put on a mask too.

Monkwick Infant and Nursery School
School Road|Colchester| CO2 8NN
➤ Headteacher: Mrs C N Holmes

T 01206 573849
E admin@monkwickinfant.school

➤ MONKWICK-INF.ESSEX.SCH.UK
➤ SIGMATRUST.ORG.UK



Leading Parent
Partnership Award
2020-2023

The Sigma Trust. Registered Company No. 07926573. Registered Office:
Walton Road | Clacton on Sea | Essex | CO15 6DZ. Tel:01255 424266

- PART OF -
SIGMA
TRUST



› **WE RESPECT, WE ACHIEVE, WE LEARN** ‹

We sent the times to you last term but here they are again: We revised them to ensure they work in the best way for all.

	Entrance	Drop time	Collection
Nursery 3 and 4 yrs (after induction)	Entrance 1	8.30	11.30
Nursery 2 yrs (after induction)	Entrance 1	12.15pm	3.15pm
Year R (after induction)	Entrance 1	8.45	2.30
Year 1	Entrance 2	9.00	2.45
Year 1/2 Swallows	Entrance 2	9.00	2.45
Year 2	Entrance 2	9.15	3.00

New Nursery starters will begin directly after Easter to ensure an induction meeting can take place.

As we re-establish this staggered drop off and collection times we need you to **strictly adhere to the times above**. Come onto the site just once dropping all children at the same time from the start time of the youngest child. If you are late you may have to wait until all children are in before a member of staff is available to come and take your child into school so, please follow the times given.

Keeping safe

The symptoms of Covid 19 are a temperature, a continuous cough, or a lack of taste and smell. If your child, or anyone else in your household, has symptoms, your child must **NOT** attend school under any circumstances for 14 days, as the whole household should self-isolate. You will need to seek a test. See <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> to book one. It is expected that all members of the school community comply with NHS Test and Trace.

Anyone who has tested positive for Covid 19 must self-isolate for 10 days.

We will need to know if you have had a positive test within your household, so that we can liaise with the Sigma Trust and the local health protection team and follow their advice.

School staff are now undertaking lateral flow tests twice a week to identify any asymptomatic transmission and this is now available to the adults of all households with school age children. We will send more information on accessing these tests in a separate letter.

Monkwick Infant and Nursery School
School Road|Colchester| CO2 8NN
› Headteacher: Mrs C N Holmes

T 01206 573849
E admin@monkwickinfant.school

› MONKWICK-INF.ESSEX.SCH.UK
› SIGMATRUST.ORG.UK



Leading Parent
Partnership Award
2020-2023

The Sigma Trust. Registered Company No. 07926573. Registered Office:
Walton Road | Clacton on Sea | Essex | CO15 6DZ. Tel:01255 424266

- PART OF -
SIGMA
TRUST



› **WE RESPECT, WE ACHIEVE, WE LEARN** ‹

What will happen if my child has symptoms at school?

If your child develops any symptoms at school, you will be contacted immediately to come and collect them as soon as possible. Your child will be isolated from others within the school until you arrive. They will be supervised by an adult during this time, but the adult may be in the doorway rather than in the room with them. They may also need to wear PPE whilst supervising your child. If more than one child is waiting to be collected they will be kept at least 2m from one another.

You will then need to seek a test, by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>. We will need to be informed of the result, and we will give you further advice. We will also need to contact the Sigma Trust and the local health protection team to ensure we follow any advice they give.

Face coverings

Whilst you may have seen talk about face coverings in schools in the media, this is advice for children in secondary school, not primary schools. Children at our school will not be expected to wear a face covering, and are very unlikely to be mixing or passing other bubbles in corridors as they are based in one classroom.

Staff will need to wear a face covering, especially when they are working in shared areas, or at drop off and collection times. Any essential visitors to the school will be expected to wear a face covering.

All parents and carers coming onto the school site are expected to wear a face covering unless exempt. We will ask you to follow this.

Attendance from March 8th

The risk to children of becoming severely ill from COVID-19 is very low and we know there are negative, and sometimes lasting, health and educational impacts for pupils who are out of schools and settings for long periods of time. It is with this in mind that the government's guidance states that pupils will be expected to attend their school /nursery, as normal, from March 8th 2021. **It will therefore be compulsory for you to send your children to school if they are of statutory school age from this date.**

Monkwick Infant and Nursery School
School Road|Colchester| CO2 8NN
› Headteacher: Mrs C N Holmes

T 01206 573849
E admin@monkwickinfant.school

› MONKWICK-INF.ESSEX.SCH.UK
› SIGMATRUST.ORG.UK



Leading Parent
Partnership Award
2020-2023

The Sigma Trust. Registered Company No. 07926573. Registered Office:
Walton Road | Clacton on Sea | Essex | CO15 6DZ. Tel:01255 424266

- PART OF -
SIGMA
TRUST



› **WE RESPECT, WE ACHIEVE, WE LEARN** ‹

Additional info for returning to school

- Your child will stay in their class bubble at all times. They will not move around between classes or around the school, this will limit interactions.
- The school kitchen will be providing lunches for all pupils as usual although children will not mix outside their class groups to eat them. A copy of the new lunch menu can be found on the school website on under the 'parents heading'. It will also be on Dojo later this week.
- Children will need to **resume school uniform as usual** from March 8th. We ask that this is washed daily please.
- On PE days children will be asked to come into school in their PE clothes to avoid additional bags and changing. You will need to ensure they have suitable footwear for these days. Staff will inform you of PE days by Dojo.
- Children will be asked to only bring a **school book bag** and a **water bottle**. No other bags can be bought in to minimise space at coat pegs which have to be spaced. We will provide a plastic wallet for a reading book if you do not have the reading bag.
- We will provide equipment for children such as pencils etc. Sharing is minimised and rotation is in place if it is used between bubbles.
- Unfortunately, at this time **we will not be able to open the school office to see parents and carers face to face**. We are on the end of the phone and email to answer any worries for you. **Teachers also cannot meet with you yet face to face but phone us and they will make contact in all the ways we have been doing through lockdown and last term**. We still want to work as closely as we can with you. **We ask that you distance at all times when dropping to classrooms**. There will be marked area outside each class. You can continue to message us on tapestry and Dojo.
- A reminder that entrance 1 is the early Years black gate to the side of school. Entrance 2 is the main gate that you use to access the school facing the school office.

We will continue to update you with info as and when we need to, so please ensure we have contact emails and phone numbers. Things are changing rapidly and we want you to be the first to know if we need to get in touch.

I thank you once again for your understanding and support as we reopen the school to all children. All of the above kept everyone safe in the Autumn term and I am confident it will be the case again. The children have been so missed and we can't wait to have school full of smiles again.

Monkwick Infant and Nursery School
School Road|Colchester| CO2 8NN
› Headteacher: Mrs C N Holmes

☎ 01206 573849
✉ admin@monkwickinfant.school

› MONKWICK-INF.ESSEX.SCH.UK
› SIGMATRUST.ORG.UK



Leading Parent
Partnership Award
2020-2023

The Sigma Trust. Registered Company No. 07926573. Registered Office:
Walton Road | Clacton on Sea | Essex | CO15 6DZ. Tel:01255 424266

- PART OF -
SIGMA
TRUST



› WE RESPECT, WE ACHIEVE, WE LEARN ‹

Mrs. C Holmes

Monkwick Infant and Nursery School
School Road|Colchester| CO2 8NN
› Headteacher: Mrs C N Holmes

T 01206 573849
E admin@monkwickinfant.school

› MONKWICK-INF.ESSEX.SCH.UK
› SIGMATRUST.ORG.UK



Leading Parent
Partnership Award
2020-2023

The Sigma Trust. Registered Company No. 07926573. Registered Office:
Walton Road | Clacton on Sea | Essex | CO15 6DZ. Tel:01255 424266

- PART OF -
SIGMA
TRUST