

3 September 2021

Welcome to Our New School Year!

Dear Parents and Carers

We cannot wait to welcome your child into school on Monday 6th September. The staff have been in school this week busily preparing for a very exciting start to the new academic year.

Below, you will find a few useful reminders regarding school organisation and protocol. Many of these were featured in the July newsletter and have not changed since. If your child is new to our Reception year at Solent Infant School, you will have already received separate information regarding their start dates and times. Watch out for further information coming home soon!

The School Day

Our schools have now returned to a shared start and finish time for all pupils (as shared in the Summer term newsletter).

	Gates Open	Gates Closed	Doors Open	Doors Closed	SIS pupils must be left with a staff member and collected by a known adult from the year group door. Entry & Exit via Year Group door.
SIS	8.40am	9.00am	8.50am	9.00am	
	3.05pm	3.30pm	3.15pm Collection for all pupils		
SJS	8.25am	8.40am	8.30am	8.40am	SJS Y3 &4 must be dropped off & collected by an adult. Y5&6 can arrive & leave unaccompanied. .
	2.50pm	3.15pm	3.00pm Collection for all pupils		

Drop Off and Collection

When dropping off and collecting your child, please do not approach the class adults to engage in discussion. We are currently asking that you continue to communicate with our staff via general school email or phone contact to minimise the infection risk. Please also ensure that you remain socially distanced within our school grounds.

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The De Curci Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 10646541. Its registered office address is Springfield School, Central Road, Portsmouth, PO6 1QY, United Kingdom.

Solent Infant School and Solent Junior School are business names used by The De Curci Trust.

Trustees: C Batstone, A Beane, A Cufley, S Hamilton, L Sinnott, D Smith, S Spivey, L Wilby
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Mini offices will remain in place for messages, medicines etc. This will mean that there will be no need to come into main office reception, unless essential. At SIS, the mini office will be under the blue gazebo. At SJS, it will be on the gate next to the new office building.

We will no longer be operating a one-way system at **Solent Infant School**. If you are able to, please use the tunnel as an entrance and exit, as the drive is for vehicular and pedestrian use and can get very busy.

At **Solent Junior School**, there is still a significant amount of scaffolding on site. The arrangements are therefore more complex. There will be plenty of staff to help direct you on Monday morning!

Upper School (Years 5&6) will use the gate by the new office to enter and exit site.

Lower School (Years 3&4) will enter the site via the main car park gate and wait in their class pod until the doors open. Class 4S and 4SW pods are in the top playground quadrant. Class 4A and 3C pods are alongside the building, next to the car park fence. 4S, 4SW, 4A and 3C parents and carers will then leave via the black arched gate. 3AG and 3H pods are on the bottom playground. These parents will leave via the upper school exit, next to the new office. At the end of the day, Lower School parents and carers are asked to wait in the class pod. Pupils will be dismissed by their class adults only once a known adult is there to meet them.

Equipment

Your child will need to come to school with the following items:

- Book bag (SIS & SJS if desired) or small rucksack (SJS). This will enable school staff to send items home, including a reading book, when they are ready to do so.
- Water bottle. Please make sure these are clearly labelled and have a sports type cap to avoid spillage. Please also make sure that these bottles only contain plain water and are not carried in your child's bag alongside books.
- Fruit bag (SIS & SJS if desired) or Healthy snack (SJS) box. Please remember the healthy snack for breaktime should not be stored in lunchboxes and should only be a piece of fruit, vegetable or hard cheese.
- A coat.

PE Kits

For the Autumn term, we will be trialling pupils continuing to come into school in PE kits on PE days and full uniform for the rest of the week. We will review this in November, ready for Spring. Please refer to year group Teams or Tapestry pages for those PE days. No pupil will need a PE kit in school all the time. Please note, all pupils will wear a school sweatshirt or cardigan as part of their PE kit (not a hoodie), removing this for the session if hot. Please refer to the school uniform guidelines on the school website for further details regarding PE kits.





Lost Property

There will be no lost property box open on either site until further notice. Please make sure that all items of school uniform, coats, water bottles and healthy snack containers are fully named. Please also make sure that your child's coat has a 'loop' at the top, so that they are able to hang it up and it doesn't get lost!

Health and Safety

We have now completed all risk assessments within school and are confident that, with the various measures in place, we are ready to welcome your child back safely to school. Despite the relaxation of many measures outside of the school environment, we have taken the decision to follow guidance and continue with a number of measures within our schools. We believe that effective safety measures remain important, both to reduce the extent to which the virus is spread within school, and to reduce the extent that staff and pupils are absent due to Covid-19 or suffer ill-effects, including those of long Covid. We thank you in advance for supporting us with the decisions that we have made.

As such, pupils will be mixing with their own year groups wherever possible, but currently no wider group within school. We are not yet returning to any whole school events, including assemblies or playtimes.

Staff are wearing face coverings in all communal areas, unless seated. All of our rooms remain well ventilated.

We continue to restrict external visitors into school and meetings are strictly by appointment only. All visitors continue to be asked to complete Covid visitor forms prior to entering the building.

All pupils and staff continue to wash their hands frequently and there are hand sanitiser stations throughout our schools. Our enhanced cleaning schedule remains in place.

We are aware that where a household member tests positive, Government guidance permits children in that household to continue to attend school. We kindly ask that if a member of your household has tested positive, you let us know in advance if your child is planning to attend school. Please do this by phoning the school office. This will then enable us to safeguard our most vulnerable staff and pupils.

Updates

It is highly likely that there will be regular updates from school throughout the school year. Please keep a very close eye on your child's class Tapestry or Teams page. This is where all class and year group updates will be shared. It is also really important to keep an eye out for emails, including the school newsletter, as there is often important information contained within this communication.





Lastly, if you have any questions, your first stop should always be the school website. If you cannot find the answer to your question on the school website, please call or email the school office, who will re-direct your query.

We are looking forward to a very positive, fun packed year of learning across the Solent Schools and are so very glad that you are here to join us on that journey. We will see you all bright and early on Monday morning!

Yours sincerely

L Wilby

Executive Headteacher

