



QUINTON HOUSE SCHOOL

BACK TO SCHOOL

A guide to a smooth and safe transition



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



The long-anticipated time, when we can begin to welcome our students back into school, has arrived. I am thrilled to know that the first step towards returning to some semblance of our familiar routine is now being made and I welcome this opportunity to explain our plans to you, within this document.

I have said before, and I say again, how impressed I have been by the resilience and resolve of the students, staff, and you, our parents, in weathering this storm. The patience and 'can do' attitude of all, has ensured that best effort has been put into our endeavours. This has enabled us to move forward with the highest quality of education possible for your children and, as we hoped, the maintenance of vital unity within our school community. My heartfelt thanks to you all for this.

We have received documentation from the government, outlining the measures we are required to take, both in advance of your children returning to school and steps we must continue to take in order to protect both students and staff, throughout the school day. We have scrutinised this documentation and, in addition to our communications with you via Teams, we lay out our response to these directives within this correspondence which have been tailored to the environment and the requirements of our students, here at Quinton House.

I have valued, hugely, the opportunity to keep you as informed as possible via all forms of communication, but I am aware that there will be many more questions over the coming days and weeks. I urge you to, please, continue to communicate with me, so that I can alleviate any concerns you may have at the earliest opportunity.

I continue to welcome your feedback and thoughts, as we progress into the next phase of Lockdown easing. As ever, we have the best interests of your children at heart and will continue to do everything possible to ensure their safety, happiness and global wellbeing.

With warmest wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo Storey'.

Mrs Jo Storey
Principal



QUINTON HOUSE SCHOOL

RE-OPENING APPROACH & TIMELINE

Our Senior Leadership Team have been planning tirelessly, working in accordance with government guidelines, reviewing responses from yourself and the rest of our parent community and building on the learnings from our wider Cognita family across the world.

We want to return our year groups to school as smoothly and as safely as possible, so by staggering their return we can ensure that we make this plan as effective as possible.

The schedule for return is set out clearly below, together with new timings for the school day.

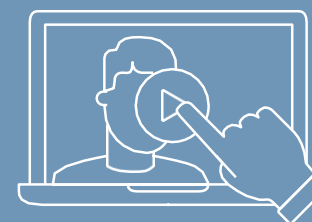
Years	Date of return	School day	Drop off	Pick up
Nursery	Monday 1 st June	8.40 – 3.45	8.00am (earliest)	3.45pm latest
Reception	Monday 1 st June	8.40 – 3.45	8.00am (earliest)	3.45pm latest
Year 1	Monday 1 st June	8.40 – 3.45	8.00am (earliest)	3.45pm latest
Year 6	Monday 1 st June	8.40 – 3.45	8.00am (earliest)	3.45pm latest

A COMBINED TRANSITION TO TEACHING & LEARNING

All of our students are of equal importance to us, they are all part of the Quinton family, so whether you have decided to send them into the school or to keep them home learning for now we are working to meet the needs to all students, both physically and virtually.

To do this we will:

- Continue the online teaching and learning provision for students who are not yet in the 'returning' year groups
- Provide online resources and support for those students who have actively decided not to return to school for the time being despite being in the 'returning' year groups



NEW GUIDANCE DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

We will all have to adapt our behaviour during the school day to ensure everyone's safety.

SOCIAL DISTANCING IN THE CLASSROOM

We are following the government advice on the requirements to ensure social distancing requirements are adhered to as far as is reasonably possible.

Students will be organised into bubble groups for both academic and co-curricular activities. This means that students will be assigned a bubble group and will stay within it for the whole day, including at lunch and breaks. The teachers will also stay with them.

We are using all the available space and staff we have to achieve this government stipulation so your child may unfortunately not be in their usual classroom.

BREAK TIMES

We will stagger break times to avoid bubble groups mixing. It's not something we do happily as playtime is a key part of learning, but it is a significant risk mitigation.

MOVING AROUND SCHOOL

We will be operating a one-way entry and exit system for individual years to manage the flow of people around the building.

We have added signage and floor markings to help everyone maintain social distancing.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

We will continue to urge children to regularly wash hands just as we did pre-lockdown. Sanitisation areas will be available for children to wash their hands before entering the building.

Extra supplies of soap, hand sanitizer and paper towels have been purchased.

You can help by reminding your children of the need to regularly wash their hands for 20 seconds by singing happy birthday twice.



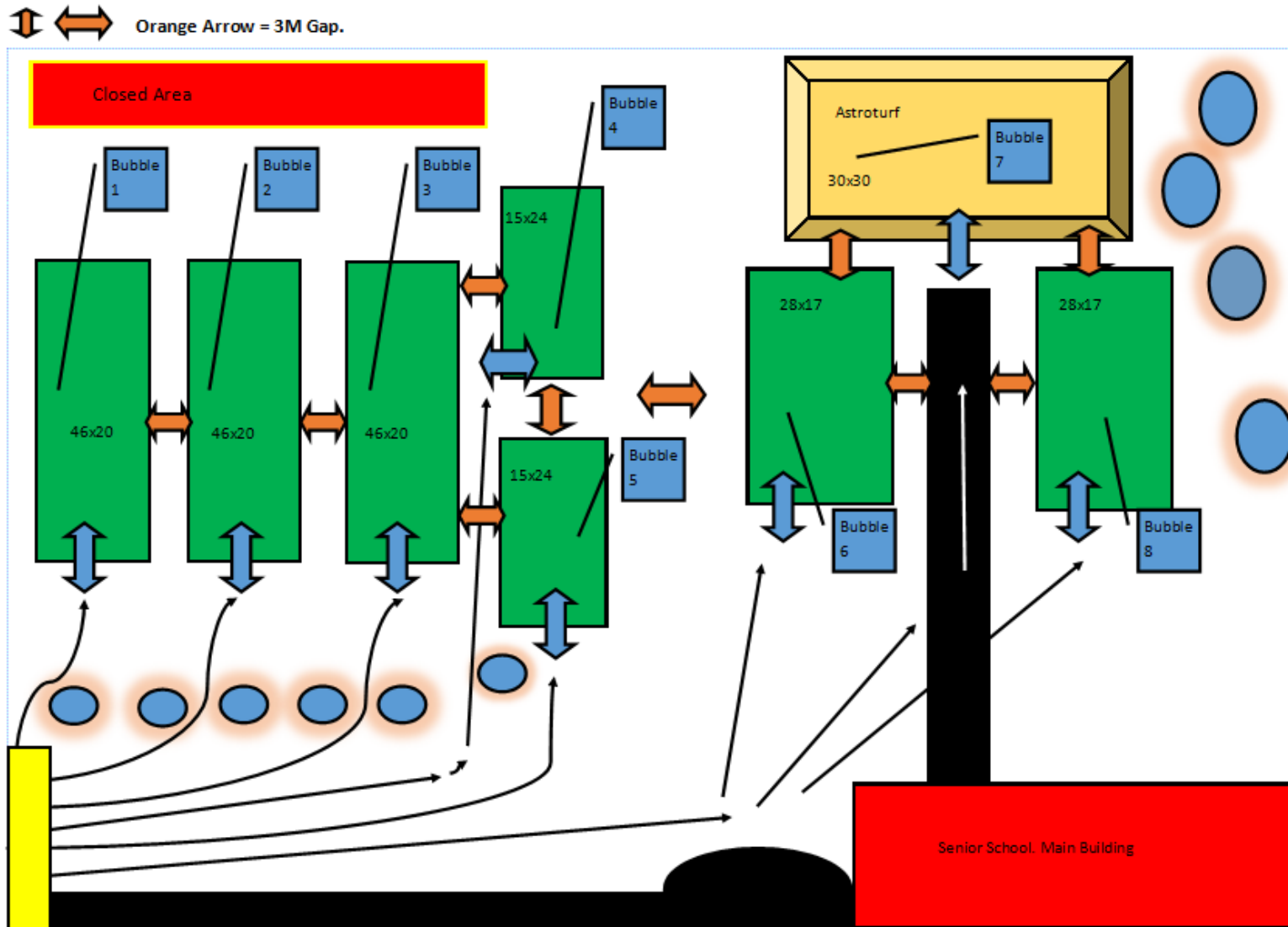
SCHOOL ENTRY

You will be directed from the front gate by marshalls.



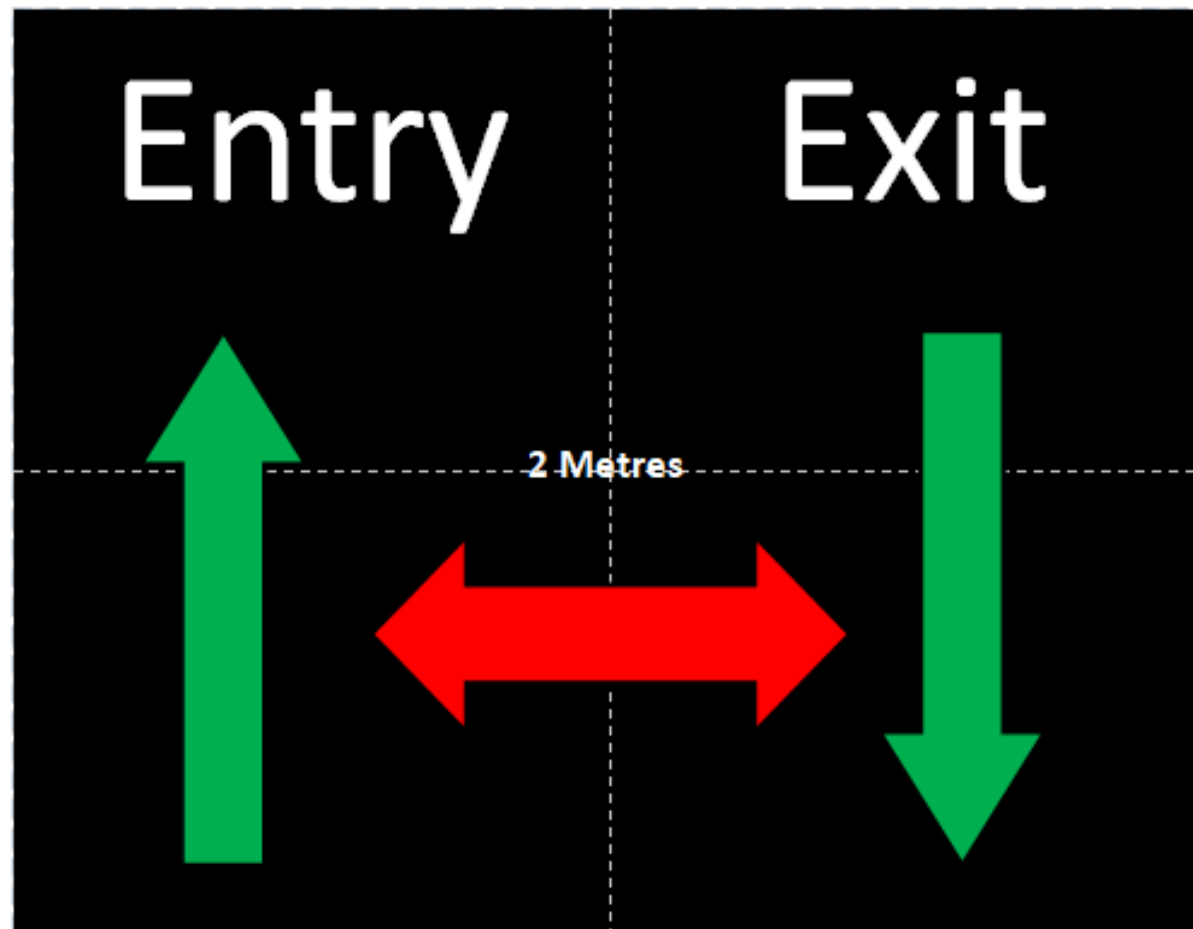
Play Areas

The Paddock – Grass Play Areas



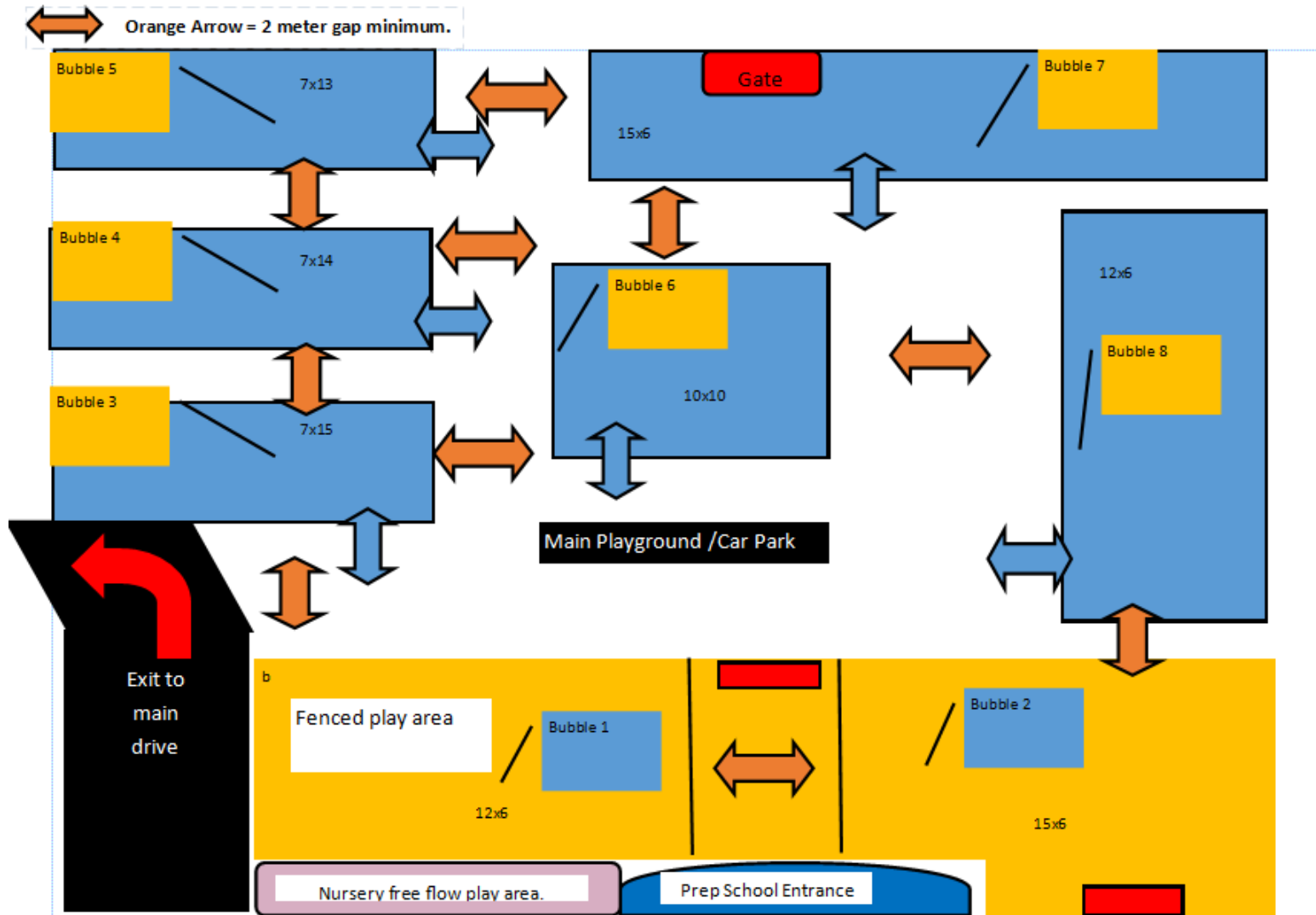
Play Areas

Pod play area entrance design to allow simultaneous entry and exit.



Play Areas

Wet Break Play Areas



CLASSROOM LAYOUTS

Here is an example of one of our classrooms which have been set up for social distancing.



CLASSROOM LAYOUTS

Here is an example of one of our Nursery classrooms which have been set up for social distancing.



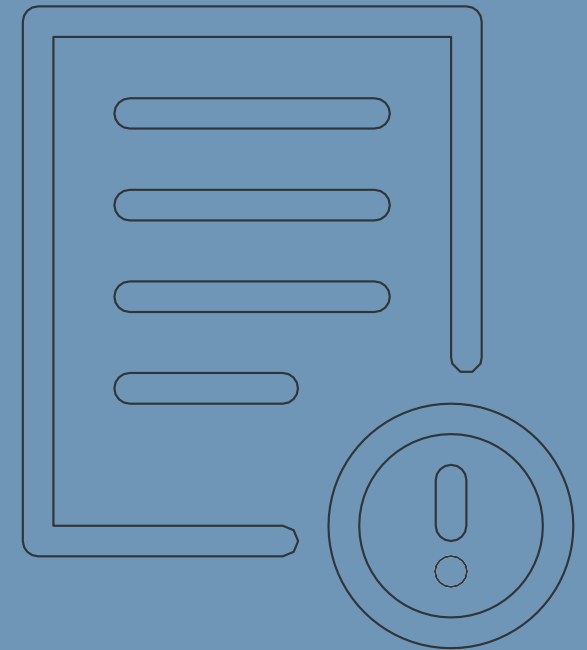
CLASSROOM LAYOUTS

Here is how the courtyard has been set up for social distancing.



PARENT GUIDE AT A GLANCE

1. Talk to your child about the new measures in this guide and the guide prepared especially for our students – it is important that they understand the new rules but also that they're comfortable with them.
2. If they have questions that you can't answer then please ask us. We are here to help this transition be as smooth as possible for yourselves and – importantly – them.
3. Take note of any changes to the timings of the school day for your child
4. Please provide a packed lunch for your child until further notice
5. If you have decided not to send your child back, please confirm this. If you subsequently change your mind, please give us 48 hours notice
6. Mrs Storey and Mrs Saghri are on call to answer any questions or address any concerns that you may have.
7. Remember: we're all in this together, as one Quinton family.



FAQS



WILL THE SCHOOL FEES DISCOUNT BE REMOVED?

No. Although we did communicate previously that once schools re-open we would revert to normal fees we have decided to waive this for the remainder of the summer term. The exceptional circumstances, the economic situation, and the value we place on our relationship with you – our parent community – means we have decided the existing discount continues for this academic year. The fee freeze for next year remains too.

WHAT'S YOUR POLICY ON VISITORS?

We are restricting the number of visitors to the school and this is on an appointment only basis. All social distancing guidelines will be adhered to. As parents you are always welcome to contact us and arrange a (socially distanced) face to face meeting.

IS THERE SCHOOL TRANSPORT?

The school will not be providing transport to and from school until September.

CAN CHILDREN BRING PERSONAL BELONGINGS?

The school will provide your child with stationery for the school day. If your child is in Nursery and wishes to have a comforter; they are permitted to do so

WHAT IF I CHOOSE NOT TO SEND MY CHILD BACK TO SCHOOL?

We understand that some parents and students may be wary about physically returning to school and we will do our best to deliver a suitable level of online provision for these students.

HOW ARE YOU RECORDING ABSENCE OF PUPILS WHEN SCHOOL RE-OPENS?

If you choose not to send your child back to school for the time being, for those in the 'returning' year groups, this will be recorded as an 'Authorised Absence'.

WHAT IS YOUR CLEANING REGIME?

We have a robust cleaning regime throughout the school day with a focus on bathrooms and high-touch areas. At the end of the day we also repeat this and pay particular attention on the common areas of the school. On a Friday evening we do a weekly enhanced clean of all rooms in the school.

In the instance of a confirmed COVID-19 case we do a deep clean which includes all surface areas and carpets. In all cases we use coronavirus approved disinfectants/aerosols and our cleaners have ordered sufficient stocks.

WILL CHILDREN AND STAFF BE EXPECTED TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS ON SITE?

No. This is the government advice: *Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended.*

Face coverings are primarily worn to prevent the wearer from spreading the virus rather than catching it. Preparatory age children are likely to be distracted and discomforted by the wearing of such an item and cannot be expected to do so safely.

If a student or member of staff wishes to wear a face covering they will be allowed to do so. We request they follow guidance on the safe method of using and when removing it should be placed carefully into a sealed plastic bag.

DO CHILDREN NEED TO WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM?

Students should wear their own clothes so that items can be washed regularly. Staff will also be wearing casual clothing.

DO CHILDREN NEED LUNCHES?

Your child should bring their own packed lunch to school adhering to the fact that we are a nut aware school. This should be in a plastic box.

WELLBEING

The transition back to school will still be a challenge for all of us trying to adjust to a new way of 'being', coping with fear of the unknown and in some cases balancing a mix of online and face to face learning. The wellbeing of our students, parents and teaching staff is our highest priority and we are lucky to be part of Cognita who have been able to provide lots of resources to support our school communities since the start of the lockdown.

This includes live webinars with our education experts, podcasts, and a series of videos and resources on wellbeing in these strange times for both students and parents. Members of our parent community have even shared how they have coped with lockdown. This evolving set of content can all be found at www.cognita.com



POSITIVE FEEDBACK

It was great to hear some of your feedback about how the school responded during lockdown. **Here are a few of the comments that make us feel proud.**

“Simply cannot praise Quinton House highly enough for how they are dealing with this situation. The standard of education, pastoral care and communication remains outstanding.”

“ We feel so lucky to have our children in such a fantastic school and it has been made so easy for us to carry on with their schooling.”

“Considering these exceptional times you have all exceeded expectations in maintaining the excellent educational experience for the children”

“ Thank you for the way you have kept the Year 11’s inspired in spite of their GCSE’s being cancelled. My daughter is also really enjoying the Inspiring Futures programme and I’m glad that she has decided to stay on for Sixth Form”