

Gayhurst Road, Hackney

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Gayhurst Community School

Monday 1st March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Plans for full school reopening - March 8th 2021

Reception

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all the children back to school. We are following the most up to date guidance in ensuring that the school will be as safe as possible, whilst trying to bring some 'normality' back to school life. We are beginning our re-opening cautiously, with some restrictions still in place, and will then review each restriction on a week-by-week basis. Below are the details for your child and their class.

Attendance Expectation:

The Government has announced that it is vital for all children to return to school. **School attendance will therefore be compulsory again from Monday 8th March 2021.**

Minimising the Covid19 risk:

In order to prepare for all pupils to return, and in compliance with Health and Safety laws, essential measures have been put into place including:

A review of our existing Health and Safety Risk Assessment: Following the Government guidance, advice from the Local Authority and in consultation with Trade Unions, we have reviewed and implemented a rigorous and detailed Risk Assessment in order to make the school site as safe as possible for pupils, parents and staff. The Risk Assessment will be published on the school website on Thursday 4th March 2021

- A requirement that children, parents and staff who are ill stay at home. If children, parents or staff have symptoms of COVID19 (high temperature, new continuous cough or loss of taste or smell) they must be tested as soon as possible
- Robust hand hygiene: pupils and staff will be required to clean and sanitise their hands throughout the day
- Respiratory hygiene: promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- Enhanced cleaning arrangements
- Reduced contact (as much as possible) between pupils by:
 - Grouping children together in pods
 - Avoiding contact between pods (wherever possible)
 - Arranging classrooms with forward facing desks in Key Stage 2 (Year 3 – 6)
 - Staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff wherever possible



Executive Headteacher: Louise Nichols | Associate Headteacher: Karen Pedro | Bursar: Cyrilene Malcolm | Chair of Governors: Ian Mullaney

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- No Assemblies for the foreseeable future
- No clubs before or after school including Breakfast Club

Once again, following the Government guidance, we have had to implement a lot of changes to maintain the safety of our site. These are as follows:

- Staggered times for the beginning and the end of the day
- Staggered times for play and lunch time
- These are the items allowed to be brought in school:
 - Coats (children will be playing outside apart from extreme weather conditions)
 - PE kit: to be brought into school and left in school at the beginning of the week and returned to be washed at the end of the week
 - Book bags to be brought into school on Friday and to be collected at the end of the day on Monday
 - Prescribed medication can be brought into school

All items must be clearly labelled with the child's full name and class. The school will not be liable for any lost items.

- These are the items **NOT** allowed to be brought in school:
 - Packed Lunches (**all** children)
 - Bikes and scooters. As our bike shed is small and becomes very congested, it is not possible to maintain 2m distance between all who use it, nor is it possible to keep bubbles of children separate.

School uniform: Pupils need to be wearing the full school uniform (refer to School Uniform policy on our school website). Children should wear practical shoes that they can wear for P.E. lessons.

Travelling to and from school: The Government has advised that parents, staff and children should walk, cycle or scoot to school if possible. Due to health & safety guidance, bikes and scooters can **NOT** be left in the school grounds. They must be taken home by parents /carers.

Use of PPE: The Government advice is that the majority of staff and pupils will not require PPE.

Changes to the Curriculum: We are aware of the challenges faced by many families trying to educate children during school closure. As much as the school has provided home learning resources, we are aware that most parents are not teachers and cannot be expected to teach children in the same way as educators. Our aim for the rest of this term is to prioritise the mental wellbeing of our pupils together with learning that addresses gaps mainly in core subjects (Phonics, Reading, Writing and Mathematics). We will continue to provide a curriculum that is broad and balanced in which pupils will be taught a range of subjects.

Contingency planning for outbreaks: In the event of a partial or full school closure, children will be able to access a secure online learning platform that will be consistently used across the school to allow interaction, assessment and feedback. If your child needs to remain at home but is able to access learning, a learning pack will be provided.

Managing suspected or confirmed cases of Covid19 at home and in school:

If your child or a household develops COVID19 symptoms at home, your child must NOT attend school.

You will be contacted if your child develops symptoms at school as you will be expected to collect your child immediately, arrange for a test and keep the school informed of the test results. Whilst waiting for your test result, you and your child should self-isolate.

Schools have been advised to take swift action when they become aware that someone has tested positive for Covid19. It is a requirement that the school contacts the Local Health Protection Team to seek and follow advice.

Reception children will return to school on Monday 8th March.

Reception children will begin school at 08:50am. The school day will end at 3:20pm.

In order to maintain social distancing, parents and carers will not be able to enter the school playground and specific gates have been given to each class. Please drop off and collect your child from the following gates:

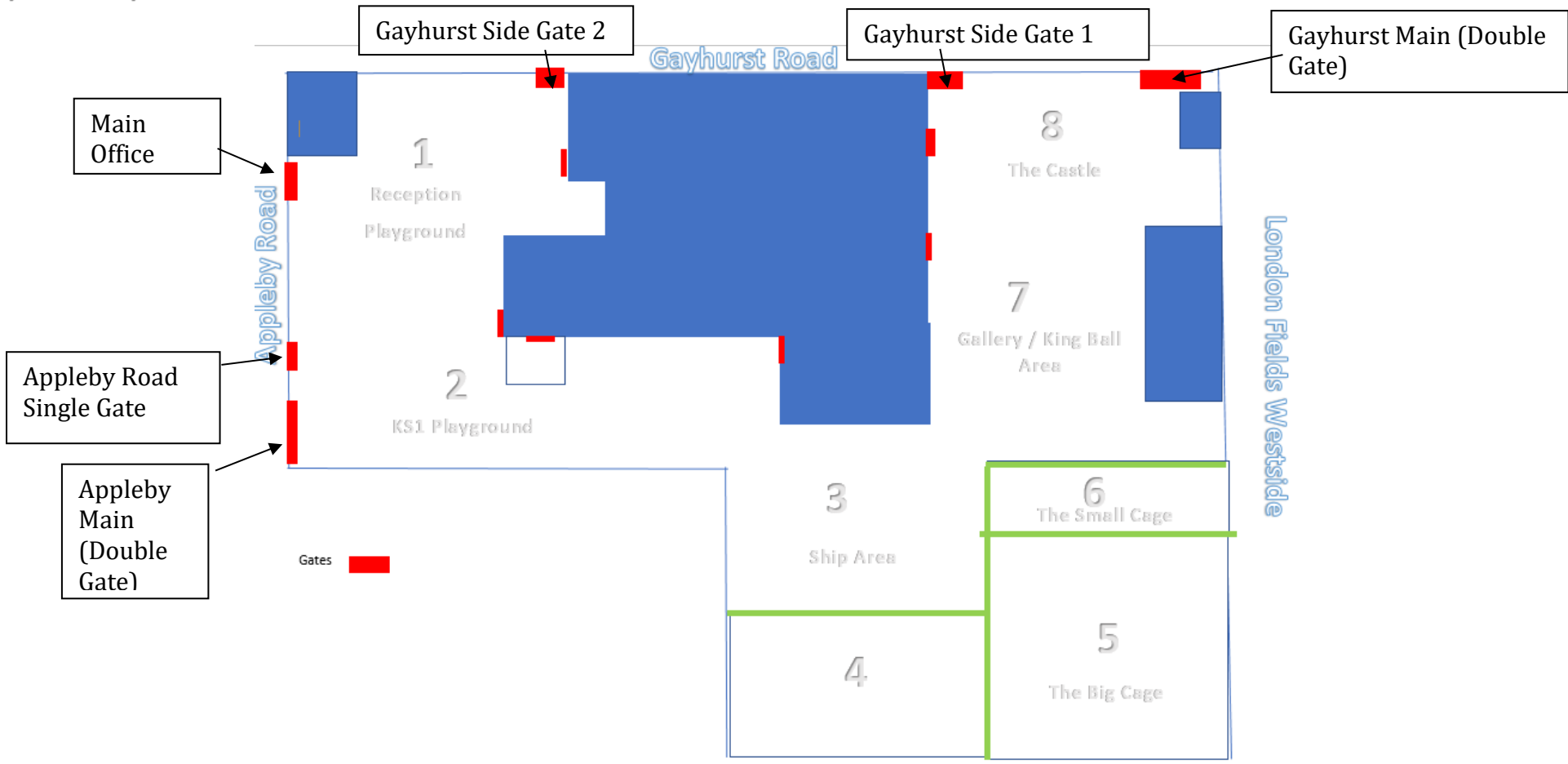
Class	Teacher	Gate
RH – Hungary	Huw	Gayhurst Side Gate 1
RJ – Jamaica	Justine	Gayhurst Side Gate 2
RR – Romania	Rachael	Appleby Road Single Gate

We look forward to welcoming you to Gayhurst Monday 8th March.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Pedro
Associate Headteacher

Map of the school site



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