



Aston Tower Community Primary School

Headteacher: Mr J Moore

Upper Sutton Street, Aston, Birmingham, B6 5BE

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Email: enquiry@astontower.bham.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coming back to school in September

We are looking forward to having all children back at school in September. We have looked at the government's latest guidelines and have been working hard putting in place plans to make things safe for the children. This letter shares our plans for when your child comes back to school in September.

Stopping the virus spreading:

1. Children should not come to school if they, or a family member, has symptoms of Covid 19. The symptoms are: a new continuous cough, a high temperature or loss of taste or smell. Please ring us and let us know if your child, or anyone in your household has these symptoms. You should then ask to take a test (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/>) or ring 111 for help, and let us know.
2. The children will wash their hands when they arrive at school and lots more during the day. We now have more sinks for hand washing.
3. Children will sit in rows in years 1 to 6 in lessons and always face the front to help stop the spread of any germs
4. Children will work in year group 'bubbles'. This means that they will have playtimes and lunchtimes at different times to other year groups to help stop the spread of germs
5. We have introduced enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach
6. We will not be having trips for the time being, inviting parents in for assemblies and not have swimming for the autumn term at least.
7. Reducing contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible
8. Where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

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Dropping off your child in the morning

Children should come to school and be collected at different times so that we do not have too many people on site at the same time. You must stick to these times. They are:

Year group	When to arrive in the morning
Year 6	8:20am and no later than 8:30am
Year 5	8:30am and no later than 8:40am
Year 4	8:20am and no later than 8:30am
Year 3	8:30am and no later than 8:40am
Year 2	8:40am and no later than 8:50am
Year 1	8:40am and no later than 8:50am
Reception	8:50am and no later than 8:55am
Nursery	8:50am and no later than 8:55am

Rules to remember:

- Children must come to school on time at the times shown above
- Only one adult should bring a child to school. Please bring your child to the Children’s Gate on Upper Sutton Street. Your child should walk in from there on their own and into the first playground. We have done this in the summer term and it has worked well.
- If you are bringing children from more than one year group you can wait with your child in Tower Road. To do this, you should walk down from the Children’s Gate on Upper Sutton Street and enter Tower Road through the pedestrian gate. When it is your child’s time to enter school, you should go back up onto Upper Sutton Street and take your child to the Children’s Gate so they enter school from there
- Children can bring their coat, packed lunch and two water bottles to school with them. They should not bring pens, pencils or a pencil case from home.
- If your child wears a face mask, they need to take it off when they arrive at school and put it in the bin. If it is a reusable one, your child must put their face mask in a sealable bag and keep it in their bag.

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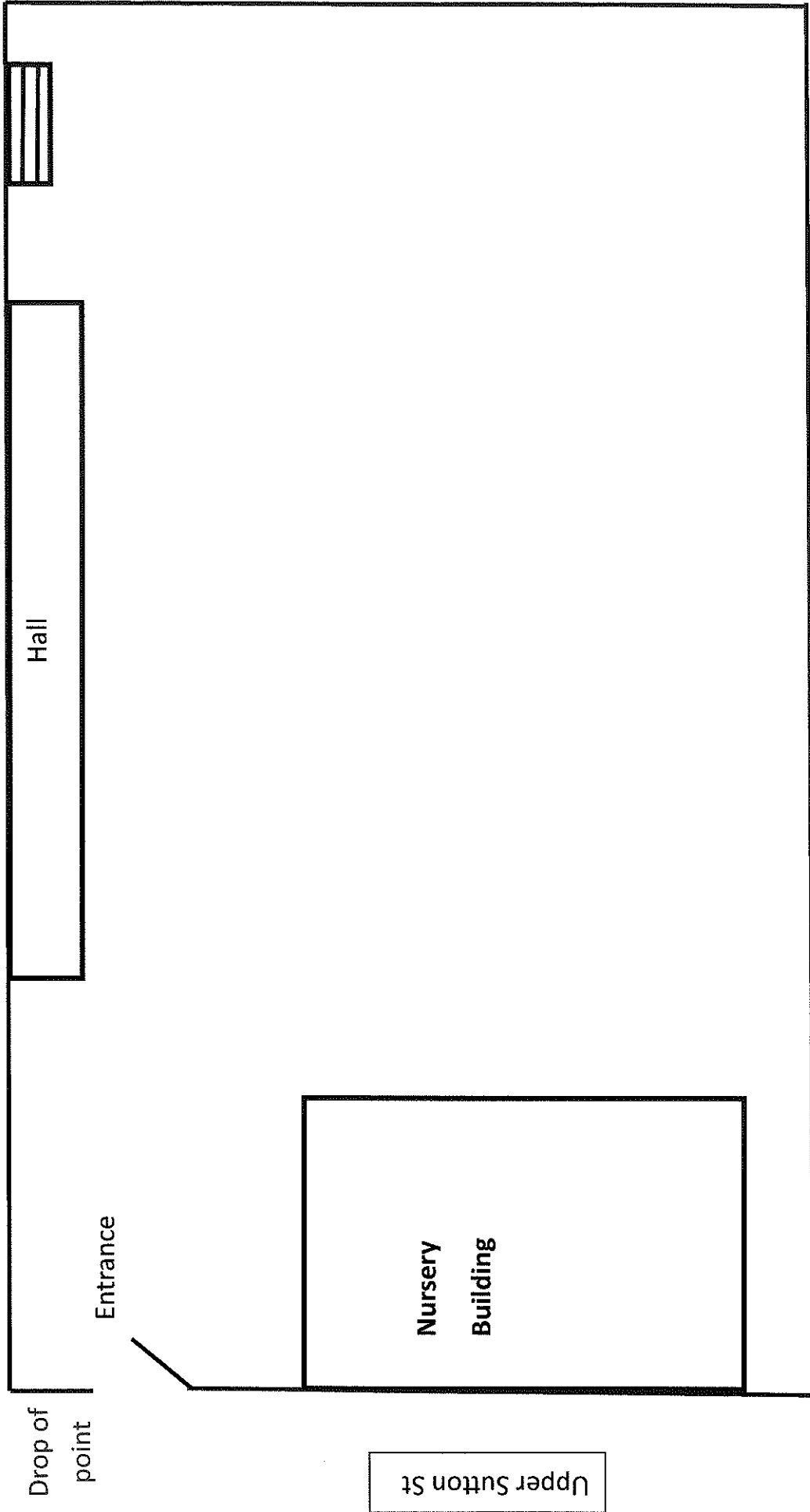


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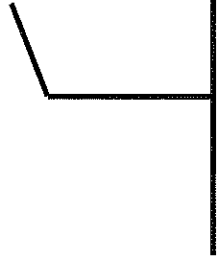
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AM Drop Off



Parents may wait on Tower Road if they have children from other year group

Tower Road





Collecting your child at home time

You should collect your child only at the following times:

Year group	When to collect your child at home time
Year 6	3:10pm
Year 5	3:20pm
Year 4	3:10pm
Year 3	3:20pm
Year 2	3:30pm
Year 1	3:30pm
Reception	3:40pm
Nursery	3:40pm

Rules to remember:

- You must collect your child on time
- Only one adult should come to collect their child
- We will have a one way system. You should enter through the Children's Gate on Upper Sutton Street and collect your child from the first playground.
- When you are in the playground you must social distance from others and leave as soon as your child comes to you
- You must stand back and wait for your child to come to you
- You should leave the site by the one way exit going through the Tower Road gate from the playground and then the pedestrian exit onto Upper Sutton Street.
- If you are waiting to collect other children, you can wait for them on Tower Road but you must social distance. To collect another child, you must follow the one way system by going back onto Upper Sutton Street and in through the Children's Gate again.

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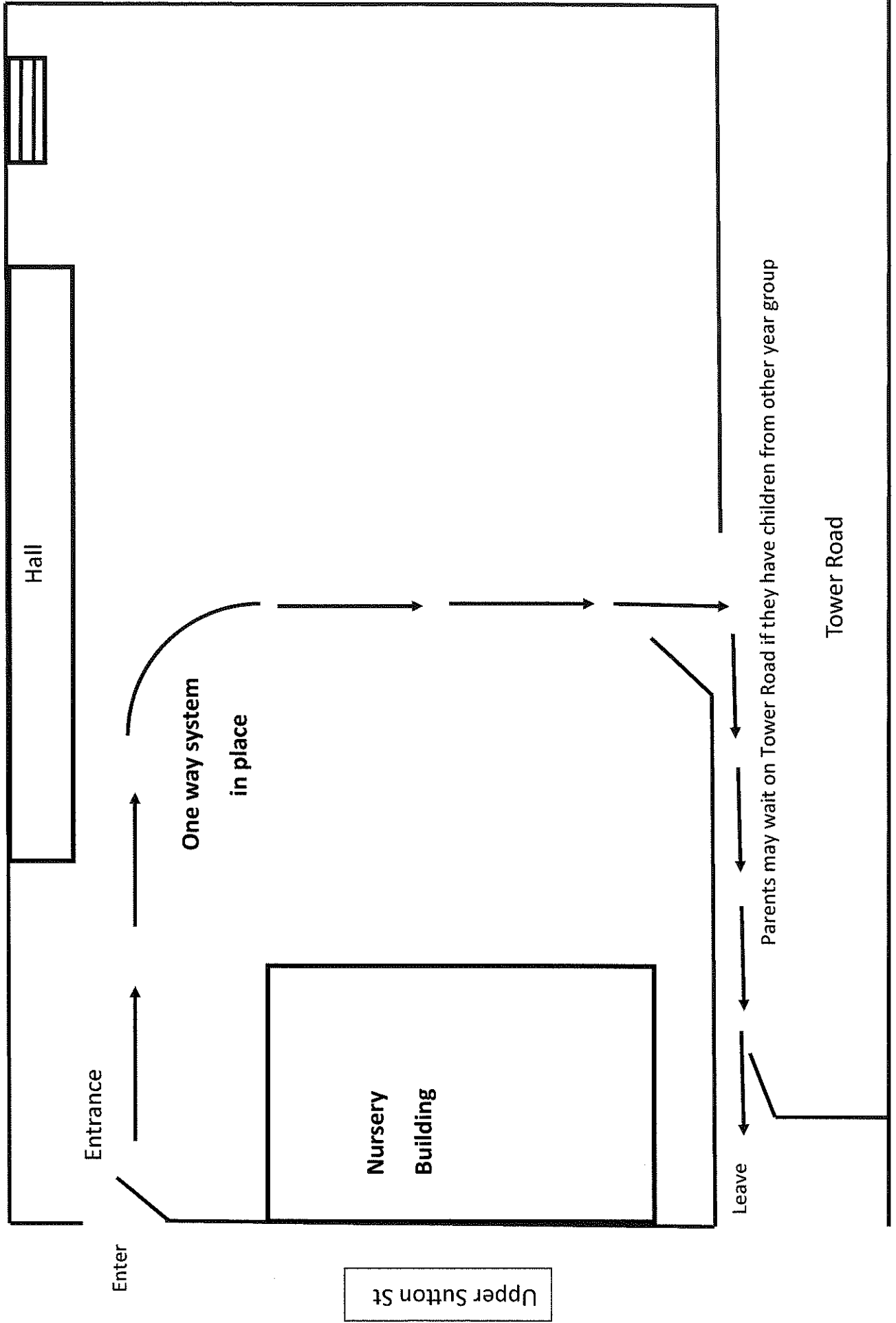


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PM Pick-up





If you want to speak to a member of staff

We cannot talk to you in the playground because of the need to social distance. Please therefore email enquiry@astontower.bham.sch.uk or ring us if you need to speak to us. You can only come into school, if we have made an appointment to see you.

Uniform and lunches

Children should wear their school uniform and you can collect uniform from us on 2 September between 1 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. You should pay for it online by using the sQuid system. Ring the office for help. Parents whose children are starting at Aston Tower for the first time should ring for help. You can also buy a school dinner as normal using sQuid. The free school meals vouchers sent out by government will stop but children who were allowed to have a free meal before along with all children in reception, year 1 and 2 will continue to do so. If you think your child may be allowed to have a free school meal but did not have one before, please ring the school office for help.

When do children start back?

Children in years 1 to 6 will start on Thursday 3 September 2020

Children in reception will start back on Monday 7 September 2020

Mrs Rai-Moore will let nursery families know when they should start at school.

Term dates for next year

Term dates for next year are on our website: <https://www.astontowerprimary.co.uk/termdates>

Attendance

Government guidance says that children are expected to attend school in September. If children do not come back to school, the government guidance says that schools will have to investigate the reason for absence and report it to the local authority.

Government guidance also says:

- shielding advice for all adults and children will pause on 1 August, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission of coronavirus (COVID19). This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can also return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding.
- some pupils no longer required to shield but who generally remain under the care of a specialist health professional may need to discuss their care with their health professional before returning to school in September (usually at their next planned clinical appointment).

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This means school will need a letter from a health professional to be able to authorise absence for shielding. Your child must engage with home learning during this time. This will be in the form of printed packs.

Also, if your child is absent due to isolating for 14 days because a member of their household has tested positive, they will also be expected to take part with home learning in the form of printed packs, provided by school.

Breakfast and Friday afternoon club

Breakfast club starts at 7:30am. If you want your child to attend you must book a place beforehand by email enquiry@astontower.bham.sch.uk. Breakfast club will only be open to families where both parents, or a single parent has to start work before school starts. We will ask you to show us proof of this from your employer. You should pay online for Breakfast Club using sQuid. If you want your child to come to Friday afternoon club you must also book your child's place by email. It will continue to be only for when both parents are working or a single parent who is working on Friday afternoons. Again, we will ask to see proof.

We understand that this may be a worrying time for children and parents. Please be assured that we are doing everything we can to make school a safe place to be. If you have any concerns or queries, please contact the school via phone or email enquiry@astontower.bham.sch.uk. We are keen to work with you to help you and your families.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Mr Moore
Headteacher

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