



16 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

It is with great pleasure that I am now able to invite ALL children back into school in September. The autumn term starts on Tuesday 8 September where the feeling in school, and across the Federation, is very positive. We look forward to the new term and re-establishing our whole school community. The first week of school will be our transition week where children will be welcomed into their new classes and given the time to settle in. During this time, the children will create engaging displays that help to make the new classroom their own, share information about themselves, make new friendships and re-establish relationships with peers and adults.

As ever, the safety of the children has been a priority in planning for their return. School will feel different, however, our experience to date has shown that children are happy coming back to school and adjust quickly to the new routines.

Kirklees Health and Safety department and Governors have been involved in our decision-making process, and risk assessments have been reviewed and updated. We are confident we have done everything we can to make school a safe and happy environment for all children.

The school environment

In June, I sent out all the new rules, routines and systems that we have been following in school over the last few months. Handwashing, thorough regular cleaning, classroom layout and consistent bubbles continue to play an essential role in keeping risks low. We have been particularly impressed at the speed and maturity with which the children have learnt the new routines and followed extremely well, without exception.

These routines have been successful in keeping everyone safe; we will continue with these on a larger scale. For example, your child will either wash their hands or use sanitiser on entering school, before and after breaks, lunchtimes and before leaving school. Classrooms have been carefully designed and laid out to enable children to work safely alongside each other and the staff.

The school curriculum

We will provide a wide range of opportunities that allow us to follow our vision and values – to be a community of confident, creative learners thriving together in a rich, inclusive environment that raises the aspirations of each unique child. The children will receive their full entitlement to a broad, rich curriculum that allows them all to be successful and reignite a love of learning in school.

Each child has been provided with their own pack of frequently used equipment, such as pencils and rulers. We are able to share other equipment within bubbles and we will continue to clean and wash these at the end of the day.

If a child is distressed for any reason, please be assured we will console them and nurture them safely.

Staggered drop-offs and pick-ups

Arriving and leaving school safely:

- We have carefully designed timetables for drop offs, pick-ups, breaks and lunchtimes.
- We ask that one parent drops off/picks up children at the gates and allows staff to take them into school.
- It is vital that we have your support in adhering to these times so as not to compromise the safety of the children.
- Early arrivals – if you arrive before your allotted time we ask you to wait in an area away from school, i.e. the chapel car park.
- If you arrive after the gates are closed you will need to call the office and someone will come out to collect your child and bring them into school.
- Please see the attached timetable sheet to find out when your time for dropping off and picking up will be.
- Please social distance whilst waiting to come in.

I understand coming back into school is a big step, if you feel anxious or worried about anything please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Other information

For the first two weeks, school dinners will continue to be a 'grab bag' containing a choice of sandwich, fruit, a drink and a snack. Lunches will continue to be eaten in the classroom, supervised by staff in the bubble. Please send your child with a water bottle, clearly named, to have in the classroom. Can you also send a healthy snack as we have found the children get very hungry!

School uniform remains optional, a PE kit will not be required initially, however we ask that your child comes to school in footwear they are able to do physical activity in, running, jumping, skipping. Trainers and pumps are ideal.

Coats in school are essential as we will be spending time outside whatever the weather.

Please **do not** send anything into school such as toys, pencil cases etc. Bags and lunch boxes are essential and will be stored safely until needed.

If your child is not attending school, due to illness or medical appointments for example, please let school know at the earliest time. We will contact you if we have not heard anything by 9:30 am.

If a child requires first aid and staff have to spend time in close proximity to them for an extended period of time, PPE may be worn. If a child or member of staff starts to show signs or symptoms of COVID-19, they will be taken to an area in school where they can be looked after, away from all bubbles and staff members. We will follow the protocol set up by the local authority, and government guidance, which can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance.

I would urge everyone to read the guidance from the government to parents as it contains important information regarding how you can support us in keeping the children safe. I have attached a link and a short excerpt to get you started.

If you travel to school on public transport, please contact school to discuss safety measures.

A final note

I would like to personally thank everyone across the whole school community for all the support and kind words we have received, not to mention the chocolates and treats! We have thoroughly enjoyed reading emails from you with pictures of work and activities the children have done at home.

As we come to the end of this term and my first year as Headteacher, I am proud of all the children and staff, without whom the last few months would have been a much greater challenge. I look forward to next year with excitement as we learn from this experience and begin a new stage in both the school's and the Federation's future.

I hope you have a fun summer break and we'll see you on **Tuesday 8 September**.

Yours sincerely



Nikki Barker
Federation Headteacher

Enc: Timetable for drop off/pick up

Timetable for Drop off and Pick up at Scapegoat Hill

When picking up and dropping off, DO NOT park on the yellow zigzag lines for the safety of the children and their families

	Drop off	Pick up	Entrance
Class 1	8:45 am	3:15 pm	Through the top gate or car park gate to main entrance
Class 2	8:45 am	3:15 pm	Through the bottom playground and class door
Class 3	9:00 am	3:30 pm	Through the car park gate or top gate to class door

We ask that only one parent/carer drops off and picks up to reduce the congestion and risk of transmission outside of school. Parents/carers are welcome to take children to the classroom door but are asked not to come into school. Staff will be at the classroom door ready to welcome your child into school.

Due to excellent parental support, this has so far been a very successful way for children to safely arrive and leave school. Time at the doors has been allocated for you to continue to say “goodbye” in your usual way - we understand leaving your child at the door can feel strange. We will continue to review the times, making changes only if necessary due to updated guidance or to improve further the safety of the children.

The government are still, at this moment, recommending parents limit the number of settings children attend. However, if your child needs to attend a wrap-around group/club please do make sure they know the correct times to drop off and pick up.