

# 8<sup>th</sup> March Full Re-Opening



We very much look forward to welcoming **all** children back to school on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**. As much of the government guidance replicates what was in place for the autumn term, our routines from next week will be familiar to the children and will hopefully help them to settle in quickly.

Please read important reminders about routines below.

## Attendance

The Government have confirmed that attendance is mandatory for all pupils from 8<sup>th</sup> March.

**If your child is absent due to illness, please contact the school office on 0191 3710424.** Please do not report absence to class teachers via Class Dojo. They will be responsible for the class so will not have time to view or respond to messages.

As previously, some children may not be able to attend school due to requirements to self-isolate because they:

- have symptoms or have had a positive test result
- live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive and are a household contact
- are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19)

Under these circumstances, remote learning will be provided for children as they are complying with government guidance or legislation around coronavirus.

## Face Coverings

The government guidance for primary schools remains that '**Children in primary school do not need to wear a face covering**' (DfE Schools Coronavirus Operational Guidance). Therefore, children will **not** wear face coverings in classrooms, corridors or the school grounds.

We do, however, ask that all adults dropping off children or collecting them at the end of the day wear a face covering. Although we have staggered start and finish times, these are busy periods around school and a face covering will provide more protection. School staff will also wear face coverings at dropping off and picking up times but will remove them on entry to school.

## School Uniform and PE Kits

**We request that all children wear full school uniform on their return to school.** As a reminder, this is:

### Uniform

black or grey skirt/trousers  
royal blue sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan  
blue checked dress in summer  
blue polo shirt  
black sensible shoes (not trainers)

### PE Kit

Black or navy shorts  
Red/blue/yellow/green t-shirt, depending on house colour (with school badge or plain)  
black plimsolls for indoor PE  
outdoor trainers as PE will be outdoors where possible  
You may also want to provide black/grey/navy jogging bottoms for outdoor PE.

### Jewellery

A reminder that children are not allowed to wear any jewellery except for a plain wrist watch (no fitness trackers/fitbits etc). If necessary, one small pair of studded earrings can be worn but they **must** be removed for PE.

We also understand that children will have grown since Christmas and their uniform or shoes may not fit. Please talk to us if you are struggling with uniform. We do have spare, used uniform in school available so do let us know if you need anything.

### Staggered entry and pick up times

We will continue to operate 2 staggered entry times and exit and it remains vital that children ONLY enter and leave by the allocated gate.

	Drop off time	Pick-up time	Gate to be used
Reception	8.45am-9.00am	3.00pm-3.15pm	Front of the school. Parents to enter Reception yard to limit congestion at main gate.
Year 1	8.45am-9.00am	3.00pm-3.15pm	Front of the school
Year 2	9.00am-9.15am	3.15pm-3.30pm	Front of the school – At pick up time, please operate one way system of entering at side green gate onto main yard and leaving via front gates
Year 3	8.45am-9.00am	3.00pm-3.15pm	Green gate onto main yard Please come in onto the yard socially distance.
Year 4	9.00am-9.15am	3.15pm-3.30pm	Green gate onto main yard Please come in onto the yard socially distance.
Year 5	8.45am-9.00am	3.00pm-3.15pm	Pedestrian gate at car park
Year 6	9.00am-9.15am	3.15pm-3.30pm	Pedestrian gate at car park

**It is essential that children are brought to school within these windows of time and to the correct gate.** There will be no access around the school grounds.

In line with Government and Local Authority guidance, we are still not able to allow parents into the school building unless essential. Please use email, phone or Class Dojo to communicate with staff. If you need to come to the school office, an appointment must be made.

## What do children need to bring to school?

We need to limit the things children bring and take home from school as much as possible so we have outlined below what is needed and what is not.

- ✓ Coat suitable for the weather
- ✓ **WELLIES to keep in school** – Essential as children will play on the field and will not always have the option of being on the yard due to zoned areas for class groups
- ✓ School bag – Small and practical (preferably book bag only)
- ✓ Water bottle – Essential
- ✓ Packed lunch box if your child has packed lunch
- ✓ PE Kit in a separate bag to be kept on coat pegs
- ✓ Full change of clothes for children in Reception and Year 1 in case of accidents

*Water bottles and packed lunch boxes will be wiped down each day by staff when they arrive in school. Packed lunch policy applies and can be found on the school website.*

- X Big, bulky bags
- X Stationery, toys, footballs etc

## Break and Lunch Times

**Break times** will continue to be staggered throughout the morning, with only 2 class groups having their break at one time. Each class group will be allocated a separate area to play outside.

Years 1 and 2: 10.15am – 10.35am (Y1 and Y2 will also have an afternoon break)

Years 3 and 4: 10.40am - 11.00am

Years 5 and 6: 11.00am – 11.20am

**Lunch times** will also be staggered and areas of the school grounds zoned so that class groups stay together.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have lunch in the school hall. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will eat in their own classrooms.

They will not be allowed to mix with other year groups.

Reception: 11.30am – 12.30pm

Year 1: 11.40am – 12.40pm

Year 2: 11.30am – 12.30pm

Year 3: 11.45pm – 12.45pm

Year 4: 11.50am – 12.50pm

Year 5: 12.15pm – 1.15pm

Year 6: 12.15pm – 1.15pm

*These times are approximate and may vary depending on kitchen serving times.*

If your child has a school lunch, please ensure these are booked on ParentPay, at least by Thursday the week before.

## Hygiene

### Hand Washing

Children will be reminded how to wash their hands properly for 20 seconds. They are supervised to wash their hands or apply hand sanitiser at regular points throughout the day, including:

- On entry to school
- When returning from breaks
- Before and after eating
- When changing rooms

- Before going home

We also ask parents to ensure children wash hands when they return home. Where it is not possible to wash hands with soap and water due to time constraints, hand sanitiser will be used.

#### **Catch it, Bin it, Kill it**

- Tissues are made available in each classroom.
- Children and Staff follow the 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it', guidance and are encouraged to avoid touching their faces, noses etc. whilst at school.
- Children are reminded to cough and sneeze into their elbow and away from the direction of other children and staff.
- Lidded waste bins are in place to place used tissues in.

#### **Cleaning**

Each classroom has cleaning materials accessible to adults. Tables and chairs are cleaned at intervals throughout the day, and always before and after lunch where children are eating in classrooms.

Cleaning staff clean key touchpoints throughout the day. Toilets are checked and cleaned regularly.

### **Classrooms**

Classrooms will continue to be arranged with desks facing the front, where possible. Where classrooms have circular tables (Y3/4), furniture will be arranged to allow for as much space as possible.

Children are provided with their own pencil case and stationery that is for their use only. Other resources will be shared within the class group, such as maths/science equipment. It will be cleaned after used or left for the appropriate length time before being used again.

### **Curriculum**

Our top priority will be children's wellbeing and therefore there will be a focus on personal and social skills and mental health in the weeks leading up to and after Easter. Where possible, we'll also be learning outside so we are hopeful for some lovely spring weather!

Our aim is to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum but this may not include all curriculum areas initially. Children will be assessed before the Easter holidays to help us identify any gaps in learning and next steps. We plan to hold telephone Parents' Evenings after the Easter holidays so that we can share this information with parents and discuss how children have settled back into school. More details will follow on the school newsletter.

#### **PE**

PE lessons will continue and may be taught by the class teacher, teaching assistant or sports coach. Under the guidance, staff are able to move between groups where necessary. Children will get changed for PE in their classrooms as they normally would, taking care to keep their belongings in their own space. Where older children use a different space to change to separate boys and girls, the space will be cleaned after use.

### Breakfast Club and After School Club

Breakfast Club and After School Club will continue to be available from 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Separate tables for each class bubble are allocated in the school hall for both breakfast club and after school clubs. There are a range of activities provided to enable children to enjoy play and social time without mixing with other classes, such as lego, board games, drawing, craft etc. Children will also have the opportunity to play outside during after school clubs, weather permitting.

**Breakfast Clubs and After School clubs MUST be booked in advance, preferably on ParentPay. It is particularly important that Session 2 is pre-booked on ParentPay as a light tea of sandwiches and a drink is provided and prepared in advance.**

#### Costs of Breakfast Club

Arrival between 7.30am – 8.15am - £3.00

Arrival from 8.15am until start of school - £1.50

#### Costs for After School Club

Session 1 3.15pm – 4.15pm - £2.50

Session 2 4.15pm – 5.30pm - £3.50

BOTH sessions cost £6.00

Please collect your child/children from the **school hall** if they are in After school club.

### First Aid, Medication and Personal Care

Children requiring first aid or medication in school will be cared for in the usual way. PPE may be worn where appropriate, for example disposable gloves if cleaning a bleeding knee. Full PPE will not be used in the majority of first aid cases or for distributing medication. We would like to reassure parents that we will continue to care for and meet the needs of all children requiring first aid or medication.

Personal Care, where needed, will take place in identified areas within school. Where a child already has routine intimate care needs that involve the use of PPE, the same PPE will continue to be used. Staff will therefore wear appropriate PPE when carrying out personal care tasks and the areas will be thoroughly cleaned after use.

### What to do if your child or a family member has symptoms of COVID-19

Where a pupil or a member of their household displays symptoms of the coronavirus, they must stay at home and follow government guidance: **'Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection (updated 15 February)'**. If a pupil or member of their household develop symptoms of COVID-19, they must stay at home and self-isolate immediately. They must also arrange to have a test.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a new continuous cough -
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child displays symptoms in school, parents will be contacted immediately and will need to collect their child.

**Parents must ensure that school is informed if a pupil or member of their household displays symptoms of coronavirus.**

**If a child has displayed symptoms of COVID 19, school must see evidence of a negative test before they return to school if it is before the 10 day isolation period.** Please send a screenshot or copy of confirmed test result to the school email [wittongilbert@durhamlearning.net](mailto:wittongilbert@durhamlearning.net)

*As always during this time of uncertainty, the information is based on the latest guidance which is always subject to change. Should there be any further changes, we will let you know.*

Many thanks for taking the time to read this document.