



Nunnery Wood Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 26th February 2021

Welcome Back from Half Term!

It is lovely to welcome back our children at home via their online learning platforms, as well as our children in school. I hope that everyone was able to rest and relax a little and enjoy some fresh air during the break—albeit in the wind and rain as well as the sunshine. We have all got used to walking whatever the weather!

From Monday 8th March, all pupils should return to school.

Following the Government's announcement regarding Primary Schools opening for all pupils on 8th March, we have reviewed the new guidance and our risk assessment. The measures and arrangements for managing the return of all pupils are very similar to those for when schools opened in September, 2020 (Autumn Term). The most important thing is that we continue to prioritise the safety and well-being of everyone. I am so looking forward to welcoming **all** of our children back.

I would like to thank all of the children and their families, for embracing and supporting the health and safety measures we put in place to lower the risk of transmission last term. With your support, we were able to keep school a happy and thriving community. We must all continue do our part to support and protect our NHS.

As previously stated, as a school we are not immune from this virus which effects our lives daily. We have been committed to providing the best education we can under the current circumstances. Last return your children adapted amazingly, and staff were so impressed in how eager they were to work hard to do their best.

Although the R-rate is falling there is a still a 'roadmap' that we all must follow to enable us have more flexibility in the summer months. We all have to play our part which will mean that we all have to continue to make sacrifices and adjustments to keep us all safe. It is therefore essential that all of us follow the safety measures within our risk assessment.

As a school we continue to ensure that we adhere to the key measures of our risk assessment:

- work in year group bubbles;
- children sit facing forward from Year 1 upwards;
- staff wear face coverings when outside their bubbles;
- meetings are held virtually;
- staff ensuring that two metres distance is upheld between adults in communal areas;
- rooms have capacity signs which staff adhere to;
- touched surfaces are regularly cleaned throughout the day;
- staff self-testing with Lateral Flow devices regularly during the school week;
- teachers maintain contact with parents through emails or telephone (8am-5.30pm Monday to Friday).

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Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Higgins





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These measures are in place to support everyone, but our risk assessment goes beyond the school building and classrooms.

Throughout this pandemic I have continued to ask parents to support our risk assessment and follow the measures that we have in place to support everyone. The vast majority of our families have, but I must reiterate that it is essential that **everyone** continues to play their part and make sacrifices to support the whole school community.

Therefore, may I remind you that we have measures in place to support all parents and members of staff to enable us to continue to lower the risk of transmission and make adults feel safer. Maintaining social distance and a one way system, are still key protective measures and we all are accountable for our own actions. So I remind you:

- all family members must self-isolate if a member of their household is displaying symptoms and/or awaiting results of a COVID19 test.
- all adults and high school children must wear face coverings on school grounds at drop off and collection times (unless they are exempt).
- parents/adults must maintain two metres distance from other households whilst on school site - it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that family groups do not mix on school grounds;
- **only one adult** drops/collects their child/children at/from school. This ensures that we have fewer adults on site. Please can you ensure that high school children don't just come on site to meet their parents;
- where high school students are collecting younger siblings they should do so alone and not bring their friends and people from other households on to school grounds.
- all adults, carers and high school pupils adhere to drop off and collection times to ensure that there are no large gatherings of adults onsite.
- A Department for Education spokesperson has said: "Children in primary schools should not be asked to wear face coverings when they return to school from 8 March."

MORNING DROP OFF

This is a drop and go system!

This worked well in the Autumn Term and there was a constant flow of parents and children.

Working in partnership with parents is central to our school community. However, currently it is essential that parents ring school or email teachers if they need to share important information rather than talk at the class door.

- Children in Aspen, Apple, Chestnut and Cherry class can be dropped off from 8.35am. Children will not be marked late unless they arrive after 9am. This is the busiest time as we took the decision to support our families with more than one child in the school. **It is vital that parents/carers adhere to two metres distance from**

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other households. Please don't feel pressurised to be waiting at the school gate for 8.35am.

- Children in Hazel, Holly, Lilac and Lime classes must come on site from 8.45am and **no earlier**. This should be the majority of children. Older children can walk to classrooms on their own as there are staff at the gates.
- Children in Willow, Oak, Spruce, Sycamore, Maple and Mulberry class must come onsite from 8.50am.
- The school gates will **close promptly at 9am**.
- Arriving between 8.45am and 8.50am is the quietest time.
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AFTERNOON PICK-UP

This is a bigger challenge for everyone but if we work together will be able to maintain two metres distance and ensure that family groups don't mix and all adults feel safe. Previously at the end of the autumn term, too many adults and high school students were coming onsite at 3.10pm creating a large groups of adults and making many adults/staff feel unsafe.

- Children in Aspen, Apple, Chestnut and Cherry class can be collected from 3.10pm. Staff are in their classrooms until 3.30pm.
Again, this is the busiest time. It is vital that parents/carers adhere to two metres distance from other households, which will be challenging but is achievable if we all take responsibility for our own actions. High School children will be asked why they are on school site if they are not collecting children in year 1 and year 2 at this time.
Once you have collected your child/children from their class please ensure that you keep them with you at all times.
- Children in Hazel, Holly, Lilac and Lime classes can be collected from 3.20pm. This should be the majority of children. Year 6 children, who have permission, can leave their classroom at 3.20pm and walk out at **South gate**.
- Children in Willow, Oak, Spruce, Sycamore, Maple and Mulberry class can be collected from 3.25pm.
- Only children with brothers and sisters in Years 1 and 2 should be collected from 3.10pm. All other children should be collected later. Again, there is no rush, as staff will not leave their classrooms until all children have been collected.

I am hopeful that, if we all continue to work together we will be able to limit any disruptions to the children's education as well as follow the 'roadmap' out of this pandemic. Please support everyone in our school community.

You will receive another letter regarding next week with frequently asked questions.

Kind Regards, Mrs Higgins and The NWPS Team

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