



DERWENT VALE PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

RETURN TO SCHOOL – SEPTEMBER 2020

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS



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Information for Parents/Carers

We are looking forward to welcoming all of our children back to school in September in a safe manner & as such, would like to provide parents/carers with the information below. There are a number of measures that have been put in place following government guidelines to protect staff & pupils.

Return to School Dates

Wednesday 2 nd September 2020	Reception, Y1 - 6	Nursery pupils who started school prior to lockdown
Week beginning Monday 8 th September 2020	Nursery pupils who were due to start after Easter 2020 will be given an individual start day this week	
Week beginning Monday 15 th September 2020	Nursery pupils who were due to start September 2020 will be given an individual start day this week	

Arriving at & leaving school

All classes will be in their own class bubbles and will not mix with other children. To help with this, start & finish times have been staggered. This will also allow parents to move between gates if they have more than one child in school.

Classes will have their own entrance/exit gates & these will be signposted.

The start & finish times for each class & the entrance/exit gates are:

	Start time	Gate	Finish time
Year 6 (Mr Lucey)	8.40	Big Blue Playground Gates	2.50pm
Year 5 (Miss Steel)	8.40	Front Playground Main Gate	2.50pm
Years 3 & 4 (Mrs White)	8.55	Front Playground Main Gate	3.00pm
Years 1 & 2 (Mrs Steel)	8.55	Big Blue Playground Gates	3.00pm
Nursery & Reception (Miss Greer)	9.10	Front Playground Bottom Gate	Morning nursery 12.00pm Reception & afternoon nursery 2.45pm

If you have children in multiple classes, please ensure your child is at the correct gate at the correct time. Older pupils can wait at the correct gate by themselves. Nursery & Reception children may be allowed into school earlier if siblings have been dropped off.

Please try to ensure that your child is on time for school as we will not have staff manning gates for longer than necessary. If your child is late, they will be required to wait at their entrance gate until a member of staff is available to let them in. They will no longer be allowed to enter through the main door.

Children will leave from the same gates at the end of the school day.

Break time

Break times will be staggered so that each class can access the playground for their allotted time (there will be no loss of teaching time).

Lunch time

Lunch times will also be staggered. Nursery & Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 lunches will be eaten in the school hall. Years 3-6 will eat lunch in their classrooms to reduce contact between classes.

The amount of equipment that is brought in from home must be minimal & for this reason, we would prefer children to have a school provided meal. The menu offers both hot & cold options.

All lunches must be ordered on www.lunchshop.co.uk using the same username & password that was used before school closed.

The normal school lunch menu will resume from September & will be available to view on our school website & on Lunch Shop.

It would be very helpful if lunches could be ordered for the week ahead at the start of each week. This allows our kitchen to order the necessary food for the whole week. The deadline for ordering lunches is 9.30am each day.

If you are unsure of your Lunch Shop username & password, please email admin@derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk & we can send it to you via text message.

Drinks

Children will not be allowed to bring drinks bottles into school but will be allocated their own cup which can be refilled with water during the school day.

School Uniform

Children will be expected to wear full school uniform. There is an expectation that uniform will be clean to an acceptable standard on a daily basis. School reserve the right to contact parents/carers to ask them to bring clean uniform if this standard is not met.

Children are allowed to bring to school a suitable coat, hat, bag containing their school reading book. If children bring in any other items, these will be left outside school & sent home at the end of the day. School will be providing each child with their own pencil box & stationery to go in it.

PE

On PE days, pupils will be expected to arrive in school wearing suitable PE footwear, leggings or joggers and their school sweatshirt. Pupils will not be changing for PE.

The PE days for each class are:

Class/Year Group	PE Day
Nursery	Wednesday
Reception	Tuesday
Years 1 & 2	Monday
Years 3 & 4	Wednesday
Year 5	Thursday
Year 6	Friday

There may be other days when classes are doing PE with external coaches who come into school & we will let you know these in advance.

Children will also take part in daily physical activity in class but will not need to wear PE clothing for this.

Breakfast & After School Clubs

Due to the huge effort being made to keep our children in their class bubbles, initially we are unable to offer breakfast or after school clubs. This is because we cannot provide this service whilst keeping children in their class bubbles. This will be reviewed once school is fully operational.

Strive for 5

Our Strive for 5 weekly reading challenge where children are asked to read 5 or more times each week will continue. Instead of bringing home a reading journal every day to record their reading, we ask that parents log on to Tapestry (for EYFS) or Showbie & leave a comment for every time that their child has completed their reading.

The rewards for achieving Strive for 5 will also continue. Small prizes will be given out to those who have completed the challenge every week. If the challenge is completed for every week during the term, an event is usually held for those children who have been successful. These events will continue but will be held in class bubbles instead of as a whole school.

Spellings

Weekly spellings will continue to be set but instead of bringing them home, the spellings will now be accessed on Showbie.

Handwashing & Hygiene

There will be an expectation in school that all children should wash their hands regularly & use sensible protective measures when coughing or sneezing. There will be class routines in place for handwashing throughout the day. Please could you talk to your child about the importance of this before they return to school. Staff will also be reinforcing the need for good hygiene & handwashing daily & there are posters around school to remind the children.

Parents/Carers

Parents/carers will not be allowed to enter the school site & can only drop off their children at the designated gates.

If parents/carers need to speak to a member of staff regarding their child, a prior appointment must be made. Appointments can be made by contacting the school office (01900 601233 or admin@derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk).

Parents/carers can also send a message to class teachers on Showbie or Tapestry & staff will do their best to reply when they can but will only reply during their working hours.

Behaviour

Behaviour expectations will be in line with our usual behaviour policy.

Attendance

The government has confirmed that school attendance is mandatory for all children from September.

The usual absence reporting procedures should be followed if your child is unable to attend school. You should let the school office know as soon as possible on the first day of absence.

If your child is feeling unwell in any way, please do not send them to school.

If children are showing symptoms of being unwell in school, their temperature will be taken & they will be sent home. Please ensure that we have the most up to date contact details for parents/carers & any other emergency contacts. Forms to update these contacts will be sent out on our return to school in September.

COVID-19

If there are any suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases in school, we will strictly follow government & public health guidance.

Cleaning

An enhanced cleaning regime has been put in place with cleaning being carried out regularly throughout the day. Deep cleaning will also be undertaken at the end of each day.

We understand that a lot of changes have been put in place but can assure you that these are as a result of government guidelines & are to protect everyone in our school community. The changes are new to everyone involved in our school & we will try our best to make them work in the best way possible.

We appreciate the patience & support of our families at this challenging time.

If you have any questions about the full re-opening of school in September, please email admin@derwentvale.cumbria.sch.uk.