

September Letter to Parents



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope and trust you have all had a good summer.

School is due to re-open on Wednesday 2nd September to all pupils apart from those in the Early Years who will have a phased start and should have received information about the timings for these.

We understand that the return to school is vital for your child’s education and wellbeing; therefore, we are striving to ensure that **all** pupils can return safely now school attendance is compulsory again. While the risk to children becoming severely unwell due to coronavirus is considered to be low, we will continue to put social distancing and infection control measures in place, in line with the results of the relevant risk assessments, to help keep all members of our school community safe.

We also understand that the return may cause anxiety in both yourselves and your children. Please rest assured that we are planning to ensure your child has a supportive, non-threatening and enjoyable time at school.

This letter covers much of the information that was in the letter at the end of term and can be re-read via our website (in the “September 2020” section on the home page).

Hopefully the information below will answer any queries you have about what school will be like, it will be a new ‘normal’ with some tweaks to normal service to ensure the school community can be as safe from the spread of the virus as possible.

Your child will bring home a copy of the ‘Covid-19’ home school agreement, which is on the last page of this letter for you to read in advance, on their first day. Please can you and your child sign at the bottom of the appropriate columns and return one copy to school by Friday 4th September, you can keep the other for reference.

Apologies for the long read but it is important and I hope all possible queries/questions have been answered.

I am looking forward to working with you all again,

Kindest regards,

Mrs Edmondson

<p>Travel to School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are expecting that most children will walk or cycle to school with their parents. • If you have no option but to use public transport please wear a face covering. You need to let the school know if you use public transport for NHS test & Trace and also to ensure safe disposal of face masks. • If you access the School Bus details will have been sent to you via Showbie • If you live further away and come to school by car please do not share a car journey with people from outside your household. • If you do drive, please ensure that the usual procedures are followed to ensure the safety of our pupils. This includes not driving up to school, (cars can be parked opposite the club). We need safe pathways for classes to reach their entrance gate. The school carpark will be closed between 8.30am and 3.15pm please do not park directly outside of the school gates or locking our neighbours’ driveways.
<p>Start Times & Entrances <i>Please keep strictly to these times and be punctual.</i> <i>You will need to say ‘Goodbye’ to your child at the gate.</i></p>	<p>Nursery (once fully re-starting on Wednesday 16th September) – 9.10am – EYFS gate Reception – 9.10am – EYFS gate Year 1 & 2 – 8.55am – Big blue gate into playground Year 3 & 4 – 8.55am – Front playground main gate Year 5 – 8.40am - Front playground main gate Year 6 – 8.40am - Big blue gate into playground</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be sent straight in to their class and wash their hands It is important they are on time to prevent a long wait for their class mates. • There will be no temperature checks on arrival as part of the new guidance however temperatures may be taken during the day. • If you are running late and will be arriving outside of your dedicated slot, it is imperative you inform the school by phone. • Please maintain a two metre social distance when waiting for your child’s entry slot.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will need to enter the school site on their own, staff cannot handle your child if they are distressed and have attachment issues and won't come in. Please note that only one adult will be permitted to drop off to reduce numbers.
Staff	Each class will have a minimum of 2 members of staff allocated and these were made known to you as part of the transition Zoom calls at the end of last term
Rooms	Classrooms remain in the same order as last year and staff will have explained where your child's classroom is during the Zoom call. Key Stage classes will have shared toilet facilities. We have planned break and lunchtimes to avoid groups meeting as far as possible.
Uniform/Clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school's uniform policy remains in force. Please ensure your child has a navy sweatshirt, white or blue T shirt (or gingham dress), dark trousers and dark shoes. They should have no jewellery apart from stud earrings or a watch. Please apply all day sun protection daily as your child will be outside more than usual. The school cannot apply sun cream, if additional self-applications needed then named bottle can be sent in but must remain in school. Please send your child in to school in their PE kit plus school sweatshirt/cardigan on PE days to eliminate the need to change clothes.
Curriculum	<p>With regard to teaching and learning we are planning the following from September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will focus on supporting children's emotional wellbeing and help them to adapt to the new 'normal' – see 'Curriculum recovery Action Plan' on our web site We will identify gaps in children's learning and re-establish good progress in the 'essentials' (phonics and reading, increasing vocabulary, writing and maths) We will identify opportunities across the curriculum so children can read widely We will develop their knowledge and vocabulary We will continue to teach a broad and balanced curriculum that incorporates all areas of the National Curriculum.
Items to and from school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The guidance strongly discourages items coming to and from school so these will be limited to coats and book bags/rucksacks. Asthma inhalers need to be clearly named and handed in on day 1 and remain in school. In addition sun protection cream bottles for self-application may also be sent in on day 1 (with your child's name on) and must remain in school (your child will be spending a lot of time outside when possible). Each child will be given a plastic cup to drink from throughout the day. There will be cleaned in the dishwasher at the end of each day. We strongly encourage all children to have school dinners are now £2.40 for those not eligible for universal – YR, Y1 & Y2 - or benefits related free school meals. This is payable through Lunch Shop. We discourage packed lunches at this time as hard surfaces can carry Covid and in socially distancing staff would be unable to help with the opening of some items. All packed lunches must be stored in a hard plastic box to enable disinfecting.
Equipment/facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No equipment of any sort should come between home and school as mentioned above. Each child will be given their own set of regularly used equipment that won't be shared e.g. pencils, mini-whiteboard. All equipment will be regularly cleaned. N, R and Y1, 2 have their own toilet facilities. Key Stage 2 pupils will share toilet facilities. Break and lunch times have been timetabled at different times for each class. Cleaning routines have been timetabled.
Extended Services & Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast and after school clubs are not running currently. This will be reviewed as we move through the term.
Break and Lunchtimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child will remain in their 'Class bubble break and lunch times. These will also be staggered so each Bubble will have exclusive use of their area. Every class will have their own staff as far as possible. Each bubble will have their own box of playground equipment that will be cleaned after use. Children will not be able to use the any of the adventure playgrounds or other large equipment. Children will be eating lunch in the hall or classrooms at staggered times. Again we would strongly urge your child to have a school dinner to minimise the potential viral spread from packed lunch boxes and items.

Milk & Fruit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Milk will continue to be available free to children in early years and those eligible for free school meals or paid for via the 'Cool Milk' website.
Social distancing and hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Signs will be put up around school reinforcing the social distancing rules and children will be reminded on regular intervals by their teachers. ● We will minimise the movement around school and staff will be leading groups to and from the playground. ● Children will wash their hands on their way into school and at regular intervals throughout the day. ● Wearing a face covering or masks in school is not allowed for children, this is Government guidance however some staff may opt for face coverings when they cannot social distance from a child or children. ● Staff are being provided with PPE equipment and may, at times, see a need for this to be worn e.g. providing First Aid. Staff may wear face coverings when unable to keep socially distant. ● There will also be a designated first aider on duty for each group of children. ● There will be regular disinfectant wiping of surfaces throughout the day as well as deep cleaning at night.
Collection information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The end of the day times will also be staggered. Please keep strictly to times. Nursery (once fully re-starting on Wednesday 16th September) – 9.10am – EYFS gate Reception – 9.10am – EYFS gate Year 1 & 2 – 8.55am – Big blue gate into playground Year 3 & 4 – 8.55am – Front playground main gate Year 5 – 8.40am - Front playground main gate Year 6 – 8.40am - Big blue gate into playground ● If you are running late and will be arriving outside of your dedicated slot, you must inform the school ● Please let us know if your KS2 child is making their own way home. ● Please wait outside the designated gate during this time slot again maintaining social distancing. The class will be brought to the gate to be dismissed.
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Under current guidance assemblies or singing are not allowed. ● The school will communicate general messages with you via Tapestry/Showbie or text in the first instance or by phone for individual issues. Please ensure the school has your current up to date contact details. ● The school weekly newsletter will resume once all the children have started and we have the opportunity to see how systems are working and so can inform you of any changes needed for the smooth running of the school days. All letters will now be sent home electronically via Showbie/Tapestry and the school website. ● If you need to discuss anything with a member of staff please contact them via Showbie or phone the school office to make an appointment. Please do not contact staff directly via personal numbers or facebook.
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government has confirmed that attendance is compulsory & usual attendance procedures will apply. ● If your child has to 'isolate' due to Covid symptoms this will not count against their overall attendance percentage.

Procedure if a child or adult shows or develops Covid-19 symptoms

- Symptoms:
- -New, continuous cough
- -High Temperature (above 37.8C)
- -Loss of or change in normal sense of smell/ taste

- The following flow chart of actions applies (this may be subject to change with new guidance)

<p>What will happen if my child displays symptoms at home or at school?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ If your child displays symptoms at home they must not come into the school and must self-isolate at home for a period of 7 days and arrange to book a test. ❖ Your child will be given an attendance code of 'X' until the outcome of the test result, this code will not count against their attendance percentage. ❖ If your child develops symptoms at school they will be isolated from the other children whilst waiting for collection – please ensure that we have up to date emergency contact details. ❖ Staff and other members of the 'bubble' can remain in school at this point.
<p>How do I book a test?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ During school hours school staff can arrange a test through using the Cumbria County Council COVID-19 helpline. ❖ Online through the NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website ❖ By telephone via NHS (dial 119 from your phone) for those without access to the internet. ❖ From September Schools will have home testing kits that can be given to parents.
<p>Why is it important to tell school about my child's test results?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Schools have to inform the local health protection team if a child or staff member has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). ❖ It is also important so that members of staff and other children from that bubble can take appropriate action.
<p>What will happen if the test is <u>positive</u>?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ If your child tests positive, they should stay at home and self-isolate for at least 10 days from the start of their symptoms and then only return to school if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste (e.g. high temperature, sickness or diarrhoea). This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10 day period starts from the day when they first became ill. ❖ If your child still has a high temperature, they should stay at home until their temperature returns to normal. ❖ Your child will get an attendance code of 'X' which will not count against their attendance figures. ❖ Other members of your household should self-isolate for a full 14 days – this is in case they develop symptoms.
<p>What will happen if the test is <u>negative</u>?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ If your child tests negative, they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can come back to school. ❖ Please bear in mind that they could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better.
<p>What will the Health Protection Team do?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ This team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate.
<p>Will my child be sent home if someone in their bubble tests positive?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ If a child has tested positive the health protection team will guide schools through the actions they need to take. ❖ This may include sending home other children and staff who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive. ❖ If this is the case your child will need to stay at home for 14 days but other members of the household do not need to self-isolate unless your child develops symptoms. ❖ If your child develops symptoms you will need to book a test (see above). ❖ If your child's test is negative they must still stay at home for the rest of the 14 day period. This is because they had been in close contact with the first person who was sent home with a positive result and your child may still develop the coronavirus symptoms. ❖ If your child's test is positive then please advise school and keep your child at home for 10 days from the beginning of their symptoms. At this point the rest of your household must begin a 14 day isolation.

Covid Home School Agreement

Child's Name _____

Year Group _____

School

The school will do its best to:

- Provide an environment which has been risk assessed in response to the COVID-19 infection both for its operation and its premises.
- Adhere to the social distancing rules as set out by the government as much as we reasonably can.
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of your child's well-being, mental health and academic needs.
- Contact parents/carers if your child displays any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Inform you if staff or children in your child's group show symptoms of COVID-19 as this will mean you will all need to self-isolate for at least 14 days or until the test comes back negative.
- Continue our clear and consistent approach to rewards and sanctions for children as set out in the Behaviour Policy as well the expectations outlined in this agreement.
- Communicate between home & school through notices, newsletters, text, email & school website.

Signed: _____

Parent

To help my child at school I know & understand that:

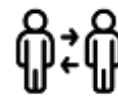
- If my child, or anyone in my household, shows symptoms of COVID-19, I will not send them to school, we will self-isolate for 14 days as a family, I will get them tested and I will let the school know as soon as possible via telephone.
- If my child shows symptoms of COVID-19 at school, I will collect my child from school immediately. **I will immediately request a test** and report the outcome to school. I understand my child cannot return to school unless there is a negative test or 14 days have passed.
- When dropping my child off and picking them up, I will ensure only one parent/carer accompanies them & will adhere to the 2 metre social distancing rules, observing the routes marked out around the school site (UKS2 pupils may go home on their own provided they keep social distancing rules).
- When dropping off and picking up, I will **strictly stick to the school timings for my child** and will remain at the designated gate and not enter the school site.
- My child must not bring any items into school or take items home from school apart from essential items such as hats, coats, book bags/rucksacks and packed lunches (although school dinners are favoured at this time to minimise viral spread). Inhalers to be left in school.
- My child will have their temperature taken during the day if they feel or present as being unwell.
- Staff may have to break the social distancing restrictions to care for your child e.g. first aid
- I will need to remind my child about social distancing rules inside school and **insist on them and not mixing with other children outside of school hours**.
- My child will need to use good respiratory and hand hygiene.
- My child will come to school in their PE Kit and school sweatshirt on PE days to avoid the need to change clothes
- I will not be allowed into the school without a pre-arranged appointment made via telephone or email.
- I need to support all staff in their efforts to create an 'as safe as possible' environment during this crisis.
- Read all letters/messages/emails that are sent home.
- I will need to be prepared for the resumption of remote learning if circumstances dictate this
- I need to inform the school immediately of any changes to parents/carer and emergency contacts details.
- If my child is deemed unsafe through inappropriate behaviour, he/she will be sent home immediately and cannot return to school until there is confidence that they can be safe.



Signed: _____

Child

I will do my best to:



Keep my distance from other children & keep in my group all day.



Not bring things except 'essential' items into school from home, or take things home from school.



Tell an adult if I feel unwell.



Cough and sneeze into elbow or tissue.



Walk sensibly with my grown-up to and from school.



Only use the equipment provided to me by school and no other.



Wash my hands **with soap** for 20 seconds throughout the day.



Behave well at all times and keep my hands to myself to maintain the safety of myself and others

Signed: _____

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)



new and continuous cough

or



high temperature

or



loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser

You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks & sport activities



Before cooking & eating



On arrival at any childcare or educational setting



After using the toilet



Before leaving home



Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels