



**Grange View C.E. First School**  
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***We aim to SPARKLE!***

### **RETURN TO SCHOOL INFORMATION**

Dear Parents /Carers

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

We have been busy working in school to get a sense of what normal will look like when we welcome back some of our pupils on the 1st June where parents have chosen to send them back. I just wanted to explain some of the changes you and your children will experience coming back into our school, making sure everyone attending the school site is aware and complies to the rules of social distancing.

As you know already, our school has never closed. All staff have been involved since lockdown in preparing work for children and supporting vulnerable children and children of Key workers. Start times and end times of the school day will be staggered and the school will close from 12.30pm on a Friday to allow the building to be thoroughly cleaned. This will also give staff a chance to prepare work for the following week. Usually staff would have time to do this in the school day, however as we need a consistent member of staff with each group and staff cannot move from one group to another to cover Planning, Preparation and assessment time.

Over the last few weeks, with NCC we have been working with the local authority to determine the maximum number of children we can safely accommodate on site. This has included measuring classroom spaces; checking levels of ventilation and moving furniture out of rooms that is difficult to clean. Where our school reaches capacity we will be working with the Local Authority to prioritise space for any eligible children if we are unable to accommodate them here.

Once we start wider reopening we may run out of capacity as further groups of children become eligible for return to school. Similarly if your child is in an eligible year group and does not take up their place at the point which it is offered there may not be a place available in later weeks.

**Following careful consideration we are currently working towards a staged approach as follows from after half term (this all depends on the government decision on whether the science supports the wider re-opening which we understand is due to take place on 28 May):-**

**w/c 1st June(Mon)- open to key worker and vulnerable and Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> June for Reception children only so as to properly assess accurate numbers taking up their full time place in these groups.**

**w/c 8 June- addition of Year 1.**

**w/c 15 June, Review addition of Nursery pupils if we can safely and supportively accommodate them.**

**w/c 22 June- Year 4 if the government approves other year groups to return.**

Children will be in their own classrooms where possible but all small toys and soft furnishings have been removed with only selected equipment left that can be cleaned everyday. Our school is going to feel very different however, we will continue to show children our care in different ways that does not involve close contact.

Below are our intentions of how our school will operate from the 1st June.

## General organisation:

- Children will be in a group of no more than 8 max.
  - Children will be with 2 adults in a group and not necessarily with the same groups of children or teacher they were with before lock down.
  - The children may not be in a group with their own class teacher.
  - Children must wear washed comfortable clothes to limit the spread of the virus between home and school
  - The children will not be able to bring in anything from home apart from their coat.
  - **School will supply a water bottle and packed lunch everyday.**
  - Some areas where needed have been marked out with tape to show 2m distancing rules.
  - If children fall over or have a toileting accident the children will still be supported by staff wearing PPE. We have sourced PPE (following the Covid 19 guidance for educational setting) which is for use only for staff protection such as child vomit, for trips, falls or scrapes. If this isn't possible, parents will be contacted.
  - A child's temperature will be taken when a child feels unwell and if above 37.5 degrees then that child will be expected to go home, take the test and return if negative.
- If any member of the group display any symptoms of COVID-19 then the whole group will be sent home and that member will be expected to take the test. When results come back clear that group can return. If the test is not taken then the whole group must stay at home and isolate for 14 days.

## Drop off and pick up

**I must stress the importance of collecting children promptly at the end of the school day and making sure you are keeping to your allotted time of arrival. Drop off and collection of our children has been specifically planned in line with our risk assessments. We would suggest only one person collects and or drops off a child at school.**

- Children will arrive and be collected at specified gate by their group leader to minimise the numbers of people on the site at any one time. This detailed information will be sent out by email to families with timing information and gate allocation.
- Children will arrive at the gates and NO parents will be allowed on site unless there is an emergency. Parents must wait at allocated gate maintaining social distance from any other parents waiting in same group.
- Only send children to school with one adult to drop off and pick up at the allocated time. You should only bring siblings if you absolutely have no alternative option. If you do need to bring siblings they will need to be by your side and adhering to the social distancing measures we have put in place. Please do not hang around the gates for any reason. The children will be taken by staff into school.
- At the end of the day, collection times have been allocated, parents will need to stand on the 2m distancing signs (just outside the school gates) and children will be sent to you one at a time.
- Parents are not allowed to enter the school site or have the daily contact or conversations they need or are used to having with staff. Contact will continue to be electronic via Dojo or telephone. This will continue to be our procedure for arriving and leaving school regardless of weather conditions.

## Break times and lunch times

- The children will eat their lunch in the classrooms. No lunchboxes within school at all.
- Lunch times and break times will be staggered and in different areas so that groups of children do not mix with any other groups.
- Outside play equipment like the climbing frames will not be able to be used at present.
- Children will have an allocated playground at playtime and lunchtime which will only be with the children that are in their group but at a distance. They must remain in this area during any outside play and follow social distancing guidelines.
- The toilet time will be supervised by staff with only one pupil at a time allowed ensuring strict hygiene procedures.
- School packed lunches will be made on site each day.

## In the classroom:

- The children will remain in their allocated classroom for the duration of the day. They will not be allowed to see or mix with children from other groups at all.
- Only one child is allowed to use the toilet at any one time.
- Children will not be allowed to leave the classroom for the toilet on their own. The toilets will be cleaned regularly.

- The children will sit at desks, where they will be at least 2m apart, all facing the same direction. This includes the reception children.
- All unnecessary furniture, equipment and soft furnishings have been removed.
- The children will work at their desks. They will not sit on the carpet.
- The children will be provided with the equipment they need and it will only be used and touched by them. These will be cleaned at the end of the day by the staff.
- They will have some lessons that will involve a lot of independent learning as the staff will not be able to sit next to them to give them targeted support but will still support their learning. The staff need to keep social distancing when teaching.

### **Cleaning**

- The classrooms will be cleaned throughout the day by staff. The bins will be emptied, double bagged and desks will be sprayed throughout the day.
- Each classroom will be deep cleaned by our cleaners at beginning of day, lunchtimes and the end of the day.

### **Key worker/ vulnerable children:**

- Any children that have been on the key worker list will still be able to come to school but they will remain in a key worker group and will not mix with any other groups of children.
- Key worker children will still need to be collected or remain at home when parents are not working other than children in Reception and Year 1 who will be with their own year groups.

All these precautions have been put in place to prevent and stop the spread of the virus and to ensure that we all take as much care as possible in ensuring that groups of children do not come into contact. More details will be sent out this week regarding the times your children will need to arrive and be picked up from school and where from. I hope this has given you more information regarding how the school will operate during these difficult and testing times.

- Any children with Asthma or underlying health conditions, parents must seek advice from their child's GP before they make the commitment to return them to school.

Home learning will continue for all children who are not in school through Class Dojo and daily contact online with parents.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch or your circumstances have changed please email me at [admin@grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk)

Thank you once again for your support and patience during this very difficult time.

**\*\*\*\*\*We continue to follow the government message to  
STAY ALERT - CONTROL THE VIRUS - SAVE LIVES\*\*\*\*\***

Louise Laskey - Headteacher