



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

RETURN SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER INFORMATION

Dear Parents /Carers

24th August 2020

September Return to School - Update

We hope that you have all had a great summer and we are very much looking forward to welcoming back all of our children next week in September.

We are planning that all our classes will follow their full timetable and staff have been working extremely hard over the summer to plan an updated curriculum across to support and address any gaps in the children's knowledge.

I wrote to you before the holidays to explain that we have used all the government guidance and I set out the arrangements and measures that we have put in place so that we can welcome your child back to school as safely as possible. I have made some updates and the information can be found in this letter. A full risk assessment is available on our school website in the COVID-19 section.

Thank you for taking the time to read this ahead of your child's return to school next week. Can I please ask that you go through this information carefully together with your child so they have some understanding of our expectations on their return. It is vital that all parents/carers and children understand what is expected in order to enable this reopening of school to take place safely.

As stated in my previous letter we have put in place a huge number of measures to keep the children and staff as safe as possible in school. In order to ensure that these measures are as effective as possible it is crucial that you and your families stick closely to the measures that are being asked of us all in our day to day lives with regards to social distancing.

Please try to ensure that your child gets back into a regular routine and sleep pattern over the next week so they are in a good position to learn when they return.

I would like to once again take this opportunity to thank you for your support, understanding and cooperation over the last few months. I look forward to welcoming your child back at their class allocated time on Wednesday 2nd September 2020.

School Roof Replacement

Over the summer the roof has been a big project and although the contractors have moved on quickly with the work it will not be finished for another 3 weeks. Northumberland County Council are supporting us with this to ensure that everything is safe but that we are ready for opening on Wed 2nd September. Please be aware that there will still be scaffolding around the school building and we will not be using the small yard or quad until the work is complete to keep everyone safe. The contractors will stop work when they children are arriving and departing from school site.

Key Stage Bubbles

In the new Covid-19 guidance for schools, we are expected to be open to all pupils from September with a range of safety measures in place including a 'bubble model' in which different year groups/key stages of children do not mix during the school day as well as staggered start, finish and breaktimes.

We have made adaptations to the classrooms to support distancing, this includes seating pupils side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on

We have attached our timetable so you can see which gate you need to arrive at and what time drop off and picks up are. You **MUST** keep to the allocated times please.

Bubbles will be as follows:

Early Years Bubble- Acorn and Oak pupils

Key Stage 1 Bubble-Elm and Beech pupils

Key stage 2 Bubble- Chestnut and Willow pupils.

The pupils will be kept separate across the day although staff are able to work across bubbles keeping their social distance and supporting where needed.

NEW NURSERY

Our New nursery are invited on Thursday 4th Sept 2-3pm with one parent to see the Nursery provision and meet the staff face to face at a social distance and ask any questions.. This will give you an opportunity to see the Nursery setting before your child starts school. You will need to sanitise your hands on arrival.

Our new nursery children will then start school on Monday 7th Sept at 8.45am. The Nursery staff will meet you at the Bungalow gate at 8.45am every day for the first week of your child's time at school. You will be able to bring them to the Nursery door. NO parents are allowed in school(with exception for your visit) or on school site but we understand that this is all brand new to you and your child and want to make their first visit to school as happy as possible. We hope they will settle well and then the following week 14th Sept we will meet you at the Nursery door at 8.45am. Please don't worry if your child is still unsure or anxious as we will work with you to make sure they are happy in school.

They only need to bring their coat, a school book bag and a water bottle. Don't worry if they have an accident as we have plenty of clean spare clothes in school.

Please watch the nursery tour on our school website and Facebook page so they can become familiar with the Nursery setting.

Lunchtime

Lunchtimes will be different but we will ensure every Universal Free School meal child receives a cooked lunch from Reception to Year 2, we need every child to take this offer to avoid where possible packed lunches being brought into the school hall, limiting any cross contamination.

In Year 3 and 4 we are still offering a school lunch at £2.20per day or bring their own packed lunch which will stay at their table. If they are entitled to a Free school meal then a lunch will be provided, you must have applied for this through Northumberland County council.

Lunchtime for the whole school will start at 11.30 for Reception, 12pm for KS1 and 12.30 for KS2. All tables and benches will be cleaned after each sitting, no cutlery will be on the tables and each meal will be served by our staff to the children sat at their tables.

No children will face each other but sit spread out side by side. Their playtime afterwards or before will be at different times on different parts of the yard to keep all our bubbles separate.

Packed lunches- if your child has to bring a packed lunch they **MUST** be stored in a washable plastic container or in a disposable bag which can be thrown out after they have finished.

Please make sure you have signed up to our new online payment system for all paying for any services in school, a letter has already been sent home via email.

Handwashing etc

Every child will be expected to wash their hands at regular intervals across the day, please reinforce this with your child ensuring they do it for 20 seconds. Catch it, bin it and kill it will be followed using tissues to catch coughs or sneezes. Germs can live for several hours on tissues, then dispose of all tissues as soon as possible. All our staff will be following these guidelines with your child.

Money and payments

Due to COVID we are now becoming a cash free school and have invested in a new payment system for parents that will allow you to pay for everything from home including lunch money, school visits etc. A separate letter from the office has been sent home with instructions of how you can set up at home. If you have any problems Mrs Brown in the office will help you.

Equipment

Pupils will still be able to bring their book bag in (NO BACK PACKS) and will receive one new home reading alongside a RWI book but will also be able to access Oxford Owl to top up their reading at home with you.

Phonics groups will continue in school but in their own classrooms until restrictions are further lifted and children are able to freely move around the school.

Water bottles are needed each day as we cannot provide cups or spares.

Clubs

We hope that once our routines are established we will also be able to begin running Breakfast Club and After School Clubs again in small bubbles from the key stages.

Uniform

Please send your child in normal school uniform with all black shoes or trainers as the new guidance states - Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal. **On your child's PE day we ask you send them in school PE T-shirt with school sweatshirt and any dark sports bottoms with trainers. This supports with no changing during the day.**

Uniform is all available via the school office if you have not sorted any yet please get in touch with Mrs Brown.

We would like to ask you all for any donations of freshly washed uniform that you don't need so we can offer it to other families who may be experiencing financial constraints due to COVID. The office will organise it into different size categories and offer it to all families who may need it.

Swimming

There will be no swimming until we have received further guidance from the government and Active Northumberland. We hope that this gets back up and running soon.

Attendance

School attendance is mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term. It is essential that your child is in school as much as possible in order to give them the very best chance of success. Non-attendance will be followed up immediately by the school and education welfare officer if required.

It is essential that your child returns to school unless they have symptoms or are isolating with you at home. We will need to ask you to follow the government guidelines and seek a test and share the results to allow us to keep everyone safe.

However, pupils, staff and other adults should not come into school if they have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or have tested positive in the last 7 days. Anyone developing those symptoms during the school day will be sent home.

This includes any of the following symptoms:

- New and persistent cough
- Fever / temperature
- Loss of sense of taste and / or smell

They will be advised to follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

If, during the course of the school day, your child demonstrates any symptoms of COVID-19 (as outlined above), they will be isolated immediately and you will be contacted to collect them from school with immediate effect. Your child will be treated with care and compassion, but there is a process that we are required to follow and this may include the member of staff dealing with them using PPE kit to protect themselves (goggles, face mask and gloves) while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained.

Any pupils who have been in close contact with them do not need to go home to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms themselves (in which case, they should arrange a test) or if the symptomatic person subsequently tests positive or they have been requested to do so by NHS Test & Trace.

Public Health England is clear that routinely taking the temperature of pupil is not recommended as this is an unreliable method for identifying coronavirus (COVID-19).

Return Dates and information :

Current Nursery/Reception/Y1/Y2/Y3/Y4 – Wed 2nd September

New Nursery – Monday 7th Sept

Please read the timetable emailed to you which informs you what time and where to drop your child off in September. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns at admin@grangeview.northumberland.sch.uk

Thank you once again for your support and patience during this time. We can't wait to see you all back in September.

We continue to follow the government message:

BY STAYING ALERT – AND FOLLOWING THE RULES- WE CAN CONTROL THE VIRUS

Louise Laskey - Headteacher