



Monday 6th September 2021

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

I hope that you have enjoyed a fantastic fun-filled summer break with your family and friends. I can't wait to hear all about your adventures when we return to school on Tuesday 7th September.

I would like to begin my very first edition of *The Broomhill Bulletin* by saying how excited I am to be joining the Broomhill family. Over the next few weeks, I am looking forward to meeting each of you in person and I hope that we will have the opportunity to get to know each other well as the term progresses.

Within this week's bulletin, I would like to share with you some of our plans linked to reopening school. If you have any questions relating to this, please do get in touch.

Meanwhile, I look forward to meeting you all in person.

Warmest regards,

Jonathan Smith
(Headteacher)

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ADVENTURE
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begin

September Arrangements

When September began and I officially started my journey as headteacher at Broomhill First School, I very much felt that my family grew by over 200 people over night! As with all members of my family, your safety will always be my number one priority. Although we are all keen to resume normal school life after a challenging 18 months, it is important that we do so in a cautious and gradual way that draws upon the latest guidance from the Department for Education and Northumberland County Council.

The School Day

The staggered times we had in place in the Summer term will remain in place for the first three weeks of the Autumn term. Within this time, we will continue to monitor the number of cases of Covid in the local area, with an aim to return to a single start and finish time in week 4. Until then, the staggered times are as follows:

- Little Owls (Nursery) – Drop off between 9am and 9.05am at the Nursery door. Miss Carrick will be there to welcome your child. Children who attend morning nursery should be collected from the EYFS play area at 12noon and children who attend for the full day at 3pm.
- Big Owls (Reception) – Drop off between 8.55am and 9am at the Reception door. Mrs Haves will be there to welcome your child. Children should be collected from the EYFS play area at 3.05pm.
- Finches (Year 1 and Year 2) – Drop off between 8.50am and 8.55am in the main playground. Mrs Palmer will be there to welcome your child. Children should be collected from the main playground at 3.10pm.
- Seabirds (Year 3 and Year 4) – Drop of between 8.40am and 8.45am in the main playground. Mrs Johnston will be there to welcome your child. Children should be collected from the main playground at 3.20pm.
- Families with more than one child – Your children should be dropped off and collected at the same time and at the same entrance to make it easier for you. Please use the time slots for your older child and the entrance for your younger child.

Assemblies

Across the term, there will be a re-introduction of whole school assemblies. Again, this will happen in a cautious and gradual way and will be evaluated on an on-going basis.

- Week 1: Class assemblies will be held in each classroom.
- Weeks 2-4: Class assemblies will be held in the school hall
- Weeks 5-6: KS1 and KS2 will come together for assemblies in the hall
- Week 7: Whole school assemblies in the school hall (EYFS, KS1 and KS2)

Lunch Arrangements

We will return to all children eating their lunch in the school hall. Lunchtimes for EYFS, KS1 and KS2 will be staggered to reduce the number of children using the hall at any one time.

Communication

We will continue to use telephone, email and Class Dojo to keep in contact with you and would encourage you to send an email to our school admin address, or phone our school office if you need any help or support during these times. Our school admin email address is: admin@broomhill.northumberland.sch.uk







Covid Risk Assessment

Our school risk assessment has been updated following the latest guidance and a brief summary of this can be found below. Should Covid levels rise, or advice from Public Health England change, increased control measures will be re-introduced.

- Bubbles will formally cease to exist in school; however, mixing between classes will continue to be minimised where possible.
- In school, we will continue to promote good hand and respiratory-hygiene. Staff and children will have regular opportunities to wash their hands using a recommended hand sanitiser. Classrooms and other areas of school will continue to be regularly cleaned and will be well-ventilated. In the hall, a UV air purifier with HEPA-filter will run throughout the day.
- Adults are no longer required to wear face coverings whilst on site or bringing children to and from school. However, we respect the choice of individuals to do so should they wish. As mentioned above, we will continue to use staggered start and finish times for at least the first three weeks.

The restrictions linked to self-isolation have changed. Below, you will find advice about what to do should your child develop any of the symptoms of Covid



<p>Should my child isolate or miss school?</p>	 <p>NO</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children MUST attend school unless they are ill. • From 16th August 2021, children under 18 (or double-vaccinated adults) do not need to self-isolate or miss school if a member of their household, or a close contact, has Covid. • Instead, they will need to book a PCR test. They can continue to come into school so long as they have no symptoms and the test result is <i>negative</i>.
	 <p>YES</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child develops Covid symptoms at home, they should <u>stay at home</u> and should book a PCR test. • If your child develops Covid symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PCR test. • If your child tests positive for Covid, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days. The rest of the household does <u>not</u> need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but they should book a PCR test to ensure they are not asymptomatic.

