

A summary of the National Guidelines:

Three key changes:

1. Mixing and 'bubbles'- Keeping pupils in year group or classroom bubbles to reduce mixing is no longer a requirement.
2. Tracing close contacts - Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace. Education settings are no longer expected to undertake contact tracing.
3. Face coverings - Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas.

What will stay the same?

Coronavirus hasn't gone away so there will still be a need for schools, pupils, staff and visitors to follow basic measures to avoid the spread of the virus:

1. Testing (asymptomatic staff and symptomatic pupils and staff) remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within schools.
2. Ensuring good hygiene including frequent and thorough hand cleaning and the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
3. Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes.
4. Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.
5. Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID.

What if someone has symptoms or tests positive? Do they need to isolate?

First and foremost, no child or adult should come to school if they are displaying any symptoms of COVID or have tested positive.

The main symptoms of COVID are:

- a high temperature (feeling hot to touch on the chest or back)
- a new, continuous cough (coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

If your child develops symptoms or gets a positive LFD test, they should book a PCR test. A positive PCR test cannot be overridden and school must be informed.

What Will You Need on a Typical School Day?

Uniform

Children will be expected to wear full school uniform.

Please support us in ensuring that your child has the correct uniform.

Sweatshirt/cardigan - purple

Trousers - Grey or black

Skirts/pinafores - Grey

Summer dress - Purple/white checked

Polo shirt /shirt/blouse - White

Shoes/trainers - Black

Shoes should have flat heels and complete foot support.

Warm, waterproof jacket coat every day

PE Uniform

On your child's PE day, please support us by providing your child with the correct PE kit:

House colour PE t-shirt

Black tracksuit bottoms

Trainers

School jumper / hoody

Earrings **must be removed at home** on PE days. This is a requirement of our Health & Safety assessment. Adults in school are not permitted to remove children's earrings and supporting children to remove their earrings independently delays the start of the PE session for the whole class.

Essential Resources

- Book Bag- You can send your child to school with their school reading bag but please do not send your child with a rucksack or any other large bags. This is because bags are stored in the children's drawers and so we do not have space for large bags.
- Water Bottle- Please ensure your child's name and class is clearly labelled on their water bottle.
- Packed lunch (if they are not having a school meal). Please ensure your child's name and class is clearly labelled on their packed lunch box.
- If your child requires medication, please bring this to the school office and ensure that you have filled in the relevant administering paperwork.
- Please do not allow your child to bring in toys of any size or any other items from home (unless specifically advised otherwise). Please see Class Dojo note for information on show and tell.

The School Day

Y2

Year 2 will use the Community Room door to enter and exit school.

Drop off window of time: 8:50-9:00 a.m.

Collection time: 3:10 p.m.

Staff will be available on the yard at drop off and collection but we may need to keep any conversation quite short so we can provide prompt, safe handover/supervision of the children. We will be more than happy to arrange time for a longer conversation with you if you need our support.

Break time / Lunchtime

Year 2 will take their breaks with and will be on a lunch sitting alongside Year 3 and 4.

Curriculum

We will be teaching the full, broad curriculum to pupils from September. This will include assemblies, visitors and extra-curricular activities.

We will use assessments and transitional information from spring and summer 2021 to plan the curriculum and address any gaps.

As is always the case at Seaton Sluice First School, priority will be given to Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) which will support the emotional wellbeing of our children as they start the new academic year.

Homework

Becoming a fluent, confident reader is a critical milestone to be achieved by the end of Key Stage 1 and daily, at-home read aloud practise is key to ensuring your child reaches this learning goal. Our reading scheme is digital and books are already assigned to your child in their Bug Club profile.

Another key skill to be mastered by the end of Y2 are the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. There are many ways to practise and develop fluency in this skill at home (board games, chanting, songs, stories, card games) and we have shared links to high-quality games online via the Year 2 Home Learning page on the Seaton Sluice First School website:

http://www.seatonsluicesouth.northumberland.sch.uk/website/year_2

Your child will get a spelling pattern to practise each week plus a set of challenge words. Challenge words are commonly used words that children typically struggle to spell consistently accurately and need to be learned by heart.

Your child may be given bespoke homework from time to time to close gaps in prior attainment but we would discuss this with you in advance as parental support for tasks of this nature is crucial to your child's success.

We will be using online platforms such as Lexia, Education City and Times Tables Rockstars as the year progresses and will share your child's login credentials with you directly.

Class Dojo

We love to see the things the children want to share with us and we will do Show and Tell regularly using Class Dojo. Any and all pictures you want to share of treasured objects or fun experiences can be uploaded to your child's portfolio. Your child will be able to talk to their friends about anything that is shared on their portfolio page.

Please do not send these as a message to the class teacher as they cannot be displayed to the class from the messaging tab within Class Dojo to maintain the privacy of parents communicating with the class teachers.

Our class page for 2021-22 should already be visible to you in your Class Dojo app but if you experience any difficulties, please let us know and we will help to get you connected.

Personal Hygiene

The children will be encouraged, where possible, not to touch their faces or to put objects in their mouths and they will be reminded about good respiratory hygiene practices.

The [catch it, bin it, kill it](#) approach continues to be very important to reduce the spread of the virus. The Year 2 team will oversee the children washing/sanitising their hands frequently throughout the school day.

Ventilation

We will continue to keep classrooms well ventilated at all times whilst maintaining a safe and comfortable learning environment. We will also undertake learning outside where this is possible.

What if my child is anxious and/or upset?

All staff are sympathetic and well-trained in effective ways to support children's wellbeing. We are prepared for some initial separation difficulties but be assured that this is usually short lived and most children are soon extremely happy and settled.

Everyone in our team will develop:

- opportunities for children to talk about their experiences
- opportunities for one-to-one conversations where this may be supportive
- some focussed lessons on relevant topics, for example, mental wellbeing or staying safe
- pastoral activity, such as positive opportunities to renew and develop friendships and peer groups
- other enriching developmental activities

We know that staff will need to strike an effective balance between settling pupils, establishing a productive work ethic in order to progress/catch up with their learning and providing support for mental wellbeing.

We hope that this information helps to answer most of the questions that you may have about returning to school in September 2021. As always if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your Year 2 Team.