



Challenge, Equality & Opportunity

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Full School Reopening on Monday 8th March

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sure that you will all now be aware that primary and first schools are due to reopen to all pupils on Monday 8th March. We were delighted to hear this news as we know that school is the best place to be for all of our pupils, because we are missing everyone and also because the current model of teaching children who are in school and children who are at home is extremely challenging. We are all desperate for some 'normality' and we think you are too!

We will contact you next week with further information and the details which you need in order to prepare for returning to school, but in the meantime, we would like to share the following information with you in order to assist your own planning and preparations.

Guidance

The guidance from the DfE has been updated and is very similar to the guidance which we had in place in the autumn term. We will adjust our risk assessment in light of some of the changes and will continue to keep you up to date with any guidance changes and the impact which these will have on our practice, on you and on your children. As you would expect, the systems of control will remain in place and we will continue to follow all of the guidance with care and caution.

Attendance

All children, other than those who are extremely clinically vulnerable, must attend school from the 8th March. We know that some of you might feel anxious about this and will have some concerns about safety and risk. Please contact school by telephone if you have any concerns so that we can discuss the best way to support you and your children in a smooth return to school.

Clubs and Wrap around Care

The Gosforth Out of School Club will continue for parents and carers who need support in order to work or attend education and medical care (as it is currently). If you need to use the provision, please contact the club directly <https://www.gosforthparkoutofschoolclub.co.uk/> If you are using your own childcare, you should use just one provider and you should ensure that they have implemented the safety measures from the Government guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Other clubs will not be running at this stage and we will review this in line with DfE and local guidance in the Easter holiday. This is currently what our partner schools in the Trust are also

planning to do. We know that the children will benefit from getting these up and running again and so we will do so as soon as we can.

Uniform and PE days

We will continue to ask children to attend school in PE clothing on their PE days. Teachers will keep you up to date with when those days are for each class. We will take a more relaxed position with school uniform on other days as we know that some children will have outgrown some items since you last had the opportunity to make a purchase. However, you can order uniform from our supplier, <https://totstoteams.com>, online and it can be delivered to your home for a postage and packaging fee or to school for free.

Staggered Arrival and Departure Times

We will continue to stagger the drop-off and pick-up times as we have done previously. Given that the 'stay at home' message is still in place, it is likely that these will be different to the timings we used in the Autumn term but we will keep you up to date with any changes and we will do our best to make it as manageable as possible for you. We are partway through our work to double the width of the pedestrian access to the site and are now just waiting for the gates to be installed, following the removal of a tree and tarmacking the area inside the gates. This improvement should make your arrival and departure much easier in terms of social distancing.

School Meals for KS2

We will continue with our plan for KS2 children to recommence school meals if required. We asked you for this information before Christmas and will continue to plan based on your responses. If you have changed your preference since then, please let us know by emailing admin@broadway.newcastle.sch.uk

Online Learning

Please keep doing what you can on Seesaw and Tapestry. You have done a great job so far and everything you do will support your children in terms of curriculum continuity and best possible progress when they return.

Testing and Masks

You will have seen in the press that secondary students will be tested regularly, at school and then at home. This does not apply to primary aged pupils and so there is no need to be concerned about these measures. The regular testing of all of our staff which commenced in January will continue. Secondary students are also being asked to wear face coverings in school, again this is not applicable to primary aged children although our staff will continue to wear masks or face coverings in communal areas of the school and sometimes in the classroom, especially where social distancing of 2m can't be maintained.

We will contact you next week with further information and details. We are really looking forward to seeing everyone again and are planning the full reopening with great relief, enthusiasm and hope.

Best wishes and we look forward to seeing you all soon!

Helen McKenna

Headteacher