

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, school is reopening again on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 for all pupils. We were both delighted and relieved to hear this news and I am sure many of you felt the same. You have all done an amazing job supporting the children through lockdown but I think we are all looking forward to some brighter times ahead.

This letter aims to set out all of the information required for a smooth return to school for all of our children. Much of the information is similar to when the children attended school in the autumn term. However, please take the time to read this letter in full as some of the information may be new and some may have been forgotten. As much as we are hopeful that COVID-19 will become more manageable over time, please remember that the risk of COVID-19 is still very real and everything that we put in place is to protect our children, parents and staff.

### **Start and finish times**

Start and finish times will remain the same as the autumn term and these can be found detailed below. Please ensure that you arrive on time for your child's start/finish time. We also ask that you avoid arriving too early on the yard or hanging around after drop-off or pick-up so that we can avoid parents congregating on the yard. Our one-way system on the yard will also still apply-please ensure that you follow this system at all times. Only one adult should enter the yard for drop-off and collection. For families with more than one child, older children can be dropped off and collected at the same time as younger siblings. Masks should be worn by all adults on the yard during drop off and collection.

| Year Groups | Start time | Finish time            |
|-------------|------------|------------------------|
| Reception   | 8.45am     | 3.05pm (2.20pm Friday) |
| Year 1 & 2  | 8.55am     | 3.15pm (2.30pm Friday) |
| Year 3 & 4  | 9.05am     | 3.25pm (2.40pm Friday) |
| Year 5 & 6  | 9.15am     | 3.35pm (2.50pm Friday) |

### **Breakfast and afterschool clubs**

Breakfast club will be open each morning for Reception to Year 6 children from 8am. Children will enter school for breakfast club through the door at the bottom of the main school stairs.

Afterschool clubs will not run for the remainder of the spring term but we will look to start these in the summer term after the Easter holidays. More information will follow.

### **School Office**

The school office will be open from 8am to 4.30pm Monday to Thursday and until 3.30pm on a Friday. We would ask that you only visit the office if you really need to, especially at the start and end of the day. Teaching staff are also unavailable to speak with you outside classroom doors at these times so we would ask that you phone school to arrangement a telephone appointment or contact your child's class teacher directly via Tapestry.

### **Lunch money**

If your child requires a school lunch and is not entitled to free school meals we ask that you send your child's lunch money for the week into school on a Monday. This can be dropped off at the office or sent into school with your child. School lunch is £2.20 per day and, therefore, a full week of lunches would cost £11. Please hand lunch money in in an envelope with your child's name, class and amount enclosed written on the front.

Lancefield Avenue, Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 2NP  
T: 0191 2240222, E: admin@centralwalkerce.newcastle.sch.uk  
W: centralwalkerce.newcastle.sch.uk

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## **Uniform**

We are aware that many children will have grown since they were in school in December and may not have uniform which fits. Families may have had financial difficulties due to COVID-19 and certain shops have been closed. Therefore we will have a slightly more relaxed approach to school uniform for the rest of this school year.

Wherever possible, please put children into full school uniform. If that is not possible, then please dress children in plain grey or black school trousers, a plain white polo t-shirt and a plain school jumper (if you don't have a purple jumper this should be black or grey). School shoes should also be worn but, as always, plain black trainers are also acceptable. All local supermarkets with clothing departments should have availability of any items that you do not have already have.

School continues to be well ventilated so it is important that children do have a jumper or cardigan in school until the weather warms up.

On PE days please send children in dressed for PE whenever possible so they do not need to get changed in school. P.E clothing must be suitable for outdoor weather and should be plain black/grey tracksuit bottoms/leggings, a plain t-shirt and a plain black/grey hoodie/sweatshirt or school jumper. Class teachers will send a message via Tapestry before the end of the week giving details of each classes P.E day.

## **Attendance**

From 8th March, the government has said that attendance is compulsory for all pupils unless they have a medical letter telling them to shield. School will need to see a copy of this letter if your child has been advised to shield. Your child must not attend school if they are displaying any COVID-19 symptoms or if anyone in the household has symptoms or has tested positive. Schools have been advised that we must now follow normal attendance procedures which will include legal monitoring and use of fixed penalty notices for non-attendance. Remote learning will not be provided for children if you are choosing to keep them at home. Children who are isolating will be marked with an X code which does not affect their attendance but all other absences will be marked in the usual way.

We hope that this letter covers all of the information that you require for your child's return to school. We look forward to welcoming everyone back next week and getting back to what we all love doing- seeing and teaching your wonderful children face-to-face every day.

Kind regards,

Mrs Day and Mrs Kerr  
Head Teachers

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