



Dear Parents/Carers,

I'd like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to you all at the start of this new academic year on behalf of the staff and governors of Dinnington First School. It has been lovely to meet many of you and I will continue to be present on the yard every morning. Thank you for already making me very welcome.



A particularly warm welcome to the new families that have joined Dinnington First School this term. Our new Nursery and Reception children joined us and are settling in remarkably well. We are really proud that all our children have made an excellent start to the academic year and are happy, hard-working and polite.

Parent's evenings for children in Reception to Year 4 are on 15th / 16th October will allow you the opportunity to chat about how your child has settled into the new year. In the meantime if you have any concerns please come into school and speak to me or the staff so we can work together to support your child. My door is always open and we want to work in partnership with you to make this an exciting and successful year for our children. We have some fantastic events and opportunities in the planning and many of the dates are attached in the yearly calendar. We will endeavour to keep to these dates wherever possible to allow you to plan ahead.

We will regularly update school news on the website so please look there for new information.

Caroline Ash
Head Teacher

UNIFORM POLICY

The uniform policy is under review but currently remains the same.

The school uniform is a combination of royal blue and grey/black. If you wish to purchase uniform with the school logo this can be done via the school office or online at Emblematic at the following link. <https://studentuniform.co.uk/dfs094/>

Hair should be of a natural colour and short hair not shorter than a number 2 cut. Jewellery, make-up and nail varnish are not allowed. Small earring studs and watches are allowed but need to be removed for PE for health and safety reasons.

P.E Kit: Plain t-shirt, preferably white without sports logos, a pair of plain shorts (black/dark blue), jogging bottoms/tracksuit bottoms and a warm top can be worn for outdoor P.E. Plimsolls for indoor PE and either trainers or plimsolls for outdoor PE. PE kit should be in a bag that can be kept on a peg.

CURRICULUM

The long term curriculum plans will shortly be added to our website so that you are able to see what your children will be learning and support at home. If you have any questions about the curriculum please do not hesitate to ask.

We know that being able to read well and understand what you are reading is one of the biggest predictors of future success. We ask that you support your child at home by encouraging them to read regularly and to talk about what they are reading with you. The local library will continue to work with us and we are proud that Seven Stories will be working in school with us over the next year (more information to follow). We will also be updating our school library and reading scheme in due course to offer your children a wider range of books to choose from.

ATTENDANCE AND HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Pupils are expected to attend school each day unless ill. If your child is absent due to illness you need to inform the school office immediately.

Please note that the school keeps strictly to the National and Newcastle upon Tyne Policies regarding extended holidays. Leave will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and a request form from the school office must be completed.

PARENT SURVEY

You will have received a questionnaire this week about various aspects of school life. I would be really grateful if you could complete the survey and we will inform you of the results and actions taken in the next newsletter.

At Dinnington First School we feel that education is a partnership between the child, you as parents and the school. We believe that children achieve more, are happier and thrive when schools and parents work together. Your views are very important and will be taken into consideration for any planning that takes place about future developments in the school.

CALENDAR AND GRAND OPENING

As you will see from the yearly calendar there are several events already planned in for the year ahead.

Come Dine and Read is a new event where you will be invited to share lunch with your children and then enjoy reading together in school.

A 'Grand Opening' is being organised for 7th May - the day before the special May Bank Holiday. This event will have a VE Day theme and we will keep you informed as plans come together.

Several visitors and trips will be organised to support your child's learning and you will be updated throughout the year.

NEW BUILDING AND PARKING

Thank you for your patience with the building work. We are sorry that the Early Years area was not finished for the start of term but is due to be completed in October so that the children can use all the space as soon as possible. The wider field area will be reseeded and ready for use later in the academic year. The children are continuing to enjoy their new school and we are now working hard to make the school a vibrant and exciting place to be.

Visitor parking is located outside the gate and to keep the children safe public vehicles will park in the area beyond the gate. The parking spaces will be repainted to allow for adequate disabled parking.

PRIMARY SCHOOL INFORMATION

The school is required to keep up to date records and signed consent forms. The following documents will be given to your child in the next few days. Please would you ensure these are completed, signed and dated and returned to school as soon as possible.

1. Personal information update/Data protection agreement/ Local visits consent form
2. Home school agreement

If any of your personal information changes during the year e.g. mobile phone number, please inform the school offices immediately.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Dinnington First School offers a before and after school club. This provides children with a safe and happy environment beyond school hours. The sessions are structured and supported with trained staff who provide opportunities to play, support, listen, talk with the children.

Further Information

For further information please contact admin@dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF DINNINGTON FIRST SCHOOL

The Parents and Friends of Dinnington First School work together to support the school and raise funds to improve educational outcomes and enjoyment of school for all our children. Throughout the year they hold meetings and fundraising events. They are always keen for new people to join them and would offer you a warm welcome. The first meeting this year is on Monday morning at 9am in the small school hall. Everyone welcome. If you would like more information please the school office.

ADMISSIONS / REGISTERING A CHILD

Applications for Reception and transfer to middle schools for September 2020 are available from 01 September 2019. Parents are encouraged to use all four preferences, apply online and apply on time. It is important to note that parents must apply through the local authority that they live in (pay council tax to). Applications sent to the wrong local authority are not considered to be valid applications.

Closing date: Transfers 12:00 noon 31st October 2019

Reception 12.00 noon 15th January 2020

SCHOOL LUNCHES

School lunches continue to be free for Reception to Year 2. We would encourage all children to enjoy a school dinner and the menu is displayed near the kitchen and on the website.

CONTACT US

Dinnington First School, Sycamore Road, Dinnington, NE13 7JY

Head teacher: Caroline Ash

Email: admin@dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk

Tel: 01661 822457

Website: <https://www.dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk/web>

This newsletter will also be available on the school website.