



Shortlanesend School

Newsletter



4th September 2020

Autumn Term

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope you and your families have enjoyed a restful Summer's break and everybody is safe and well.

School Update

We are happy to report that our detailed plans (which were issued in July to you all) have largely remained in untouched. Most of the changes and 'u-turns' you may have heard about in the media have been in the secondary sector – therefore we look forward to seeing all our smiling children back on Monday in school!

The full letter from July can be found on our school website:

<https://shortlanesend.eschools.co.uk/web>

Underneath the newsletter tab on the home page – called September Term.

To help prepare your child for their new classroom there are photos of the classrooms and adults also on our school website under your child's class page. There will be a class specific letter from each teacher on Monday providing further details for the term ahead.

Like all schools we have had to implement some changes as recommended by the government to ensure that our children, parents and staff remain as safe as possible. It may help you to read this short BBC News article, which explains the measures the majority of schools are having to undertake to allow for a safe opening:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-51643556>

What will happen on Monday?

Our school ethos is **Smile – Learn – Excel.**

This is even more important to everyone connected to our school as we look at all children returning to school. We know there will be a whole variety of emotions on Monday from both children and adults. The last few months would have affected everyone differently and our experiences of the lock-down and the easing will be diverse. The staff have planned activities which are aimed to settle the children naturally into life back in classroom, whilst explaining the current measures. The staff of our school promise that the return to school will managed on a individual basis, ensuring that every child has a soft landing; guaranteeing that the children feel secure, cared for and happy.

Drop off and collection:

Please support our school by adhering to the following procedures:

- Staggered drop off and collection times based on class
- 1-way directional system
- An adult will be at the main gate entrance welcoming the children and supporting with the direction of movement.
- One adult per family will accompany their child – unfortunately, no parent or carer will be able to enter the building
- There is an expectation that no child or adult should gather on the school site at any time
- Children will enter their classrooms via their external classroom door and will immediately wash their hands or use hand sanitizer.
- 3 drop off and collection times
- For collection, the gates will be open at 14:55. Parents are asked not to arrive before 14:55 as this would result in congestion. Please queue responsibly whilst your child is dismissed to you.
- Siblings to be dropped off/collected at earliest time
- To support the safe environment, **parents must adhere** to the collection and drop off times

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Arrival Time</u>	<u>Where?</u>	<u>Departure Time</u>	<u>Where?</u>
5 – Mr Easter	8:30-8:40	Corridor – Door nearest classroom	3:00	Corridor – Door nearest classroom
4 – Miss Eddison	8:30-8:40	Classroom - Side door	3:00	Classroom - Side door
3 – Mrs Ashley/Mrs Lewis	8:45-8:55	Class Door	3:15	Class Door
2 – Miss Adler	8:45-8:55	Class Door	3:15	Class Door
1 – Mrs Lewis/Mrs Stanhope	9:00	Through outside area	Building up to 3:10	Through outside area

Uniform

School uniform is expected to be worn by all children (with the exception of PE days – see below). The donated uniform will be on show during next week for anyone who needs it. Please help yourself; we all know the magic growth spurts that children can have over August.

PE Kits

Your child will receive a class specific letter on Monday informing them on which days a PE Kit will be needed. To allow for minimal disruptions, your child can wear their kit into school on this day.

Reading Books

Mrs Ashley has devised a system to allow for reading books to be sent home, returned and quarantined to allow for home reading. Please inform the school if you do not wish your child to bring a school reading book home.

School Lunches

Please continue to order the usual way. A new menu has recently been uploaded.

Wrap- Around Care

There will be no wrap-around care for next week. We are planning on restarting the service from Monday 14th September. The morning session will run from 7:50am and the after-school session until 5:15pm. As mentioned in correspondence last term, there will be a slight price increase to the after-school rate – this will move from £3 an hour to £4 an hour. A full detailed letter will be issued next week

Your Support

We'd like to thank every one of you for your patience and understanding during the past few months. Your appreciation of the situation and the challenges that our school has faced has been very much valued by all the staff.

We hope to rely on your continued support in the future, especially over the next few weeks, as we welcome back all the children whilst continuing to strive to care for and teach them all to the highest possible standard during the current situation regarding the Covid-19 crisis. It is possible that our plans and procedures may change and we will continue to need to be flexible moving forwards based on certain factors out of our control.

Always remember that we only want the same as you – the every best for your child.

Thank you, and on behalf of the entire staff of Shortlanesend School – we are looking forward to journeying through another successful academic year with yourselves and your children.