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Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Plans for the full return to school on Monday 8th March 2021

Please read the following important information carefully...

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will no doubt be aware the Government has decided to resume face-to-face learning for all children, in all schools from Monday 8th March 2021.

Since the country entered the latest lockdown in January 2021, we have continued to work hard at Knop Law to provide education in school for children of critical workers and vulnerable children, whilst providing daily online learning for all children at home via Seesaw.

We are very excited to welcome all of our children back into school on a full-time basis, but please be aware that there will still be many safety measures in place that must be followed to keep our school as Covid-secure as possible.

In this letter I will explain how school will look and operate when we re-open on **Monday 8th March 2021**. The arrangements are very similar to September 2020 with one of the main change being that attendance is now compulsory and there is a change in home time procedures.

Bubbles

A bubble is a group of children and adults who remain together throughout the school day. As far as possible children from one bubble will not come into contact with children from another bubble throughout the day. From the 8th of March each year group will be a bubble. This bubble arrangement will be under constant review.

Pick-up and drop-off:

We will operate a drop-off period between **08:20 and 08:30** every morning. **Children must be on time**, otherwise they will receive a late mark.





The car park will be open from 8:20 and if parents are using this facility the children must be dropped off from the passenger side of the vehicle and enter school by the green gate at the bottom of the car park. **Please do not arrive before 8:20 as the gates may not be open and this will cause congestion on Hillhead Parkway.**

As in September, we strongly advise everyone to walk or park off-site and walk.

Parents who are walking will drop their children at the main gate including Reception class pupils. Staff will be stationed around the site to ensure children move quickly to their appropriate entrances. This will limit the amount of people on site.

Pick-up points and times at the end of the day – please note the changes in pick up arrangements- All families will leave with the ELDEST sibling and children will be dismissed in alphabetical order where possible.

Leaving by car: Reception 2:40pm
KS1 (Y1 and Y2) 2:45pm
KS2 (Y3/4/5/6) 3:00pm

Leaving on foot: Reception 2:40pm
KS1 (Y1 and Y2) 2:45pm
KS2 (Y3/4/5/6) 2:55pm

These timings will be kept under review and you will be notified of any changes.

We must all work together to keep Covid rates low within our community – we all want to return to normality as soon as possible. We therefore ask all parents/carers to observe the following:

- Keep a 2 metre distance from other families at all times, this avoids the necessity of wearing face coverings although adults may choose to do so.
- Limit **one adult** to collect your child from school.
- Once a child is collected they **MUST STAY** with their adults and not run around the school grounds.
- Do not arrive earlier than the designated drop off/pick up times – **leave the school grounds immediately** after collecting your child.
- The school gates for children who are walking will not open until 8.20am when staff are available to supervise them.





- Children will continue to be dismissed from classrooms in alphabetical order to avoid gatherings around doorways.
- Parents/carers should still not enter the school building at this point without prior appointment.

If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and you give them permission to walk to/from school alone, this can continue.

What is in place to keep my child safe?

Over the past few months we have put various measures in place to keep our children, staff and parents/carer safe. The following are some of the measures that are in place:

- ✓ Your child will remain in the same 'bubble' throughout the day.
- ✓ Staggered start and finished times mean children will arrive and depart school in smaller groups and there will be no large crowds at the school gates.
- ✓ Children will have staggered play-times and lunch breaks so that they are only outside with children within their bubble.
- ✓ Staff at Knop Law are now taking part in Lateral Flow Device Covid Testing twice per week, so any a-symptomatic cases in staff will be quickly identified.
- ✓ Lunches including hot school dinner will be served in staggered sittings.
- ✓ There will be no large gatherings including whole-school assemblies or performances until advice from the Government indicates that this is safe.
- ✓ All children will sanitise their hands upon arrival and departure from school and at regular intervals throughout the day.
- ✓ There will be regular hand-washing with hot water and soap throughout the day. This will be supervised by an adult.
- ✓ There is a one-way system in place in school which limits crossovers in corridors and on stairs.
- ✓ Children will have their own resources and stationery within class. Children in KS2 will sit facing the front of the classroom when sat at desks. Children are allowed to take reading books between home and school. Children can bring in their own pencil cases, but must keep these at their trays. Mobile phones should only be brought to school by children in Y6 and should be handed to the class teacher on arrival for safe keeping until the end of the day.
- ✓ Common touch-points such as door handles, taps, etc. will be sanitised by staff throughout the school day.





- ✓ There will be increased ventilation in classrooms throughout the day.
- ✓ PE will take place, but will not include contact sports. All equipment used in PE will be sanitised by staff before and after it is used. Children should continue to come to school in their PE kits on their designated PE day (their class teacher will inform them of their days).
- ✓ iPads/PC's will be sanitised before and after use.

We have an in-depth, whole-school risk assessment which covers all measures we are taking in school to keep our children, staff and parents safe – paper copies of the risk assessment are available on request by calling the office on 0191 267 4453.

We would also ask that you read our Home/School agreement (which is attached very carefully and discuss the contents with your children before their return to school.

A copy of our Frequently Asked Questions is attached but if you require any further information please contact the school office on the number above or email admin@knoplw.newcastle.sch.uk

We hope that this letter gives you a clearer picture of what school will look like on March 8th. We are very excited to welcome back our children – we have missed them so much since January and there is so much excitement in the air however it is important that we still follow COVID restrictions and guidelines.

Thank you for your amazing support over the past few months and we look forward to seeing you all on **Monday 8th March**.

H.E.Simpson
Head Teacher

