

25.8.21

Dear Parents

I'm very excited about welcoming everyone back to school on **Tuesday the 7th of September**. We have been busy at school preparing for your return.

The school has been thoroughly deep cleaned and some areas have been decorated in readiness for the children returning.

The information I provided in my letter at the end of the summer term is still valid but I thought that you would appreciate an overview of current government guidance. I also thought it would be useful to outline arrangements for the first day back.

As you will be aware, the government moved to 'step 4' of its covid-19 roadmap from 19th July.

As a result, new guidance for schools has been published by the Department for Education and Public Health England. This latest guidance will have implications for arrangements in school from September. You can read it in full at the DfE website or by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>

Contact tracing and self-isolation:

*As from 19th July the **responsibility for contact tracing when a pupil tests positive for covid passed from the school to NHS Test and Trace**. This means that it will no longer be the school that informs parents when children need to self-isolate.*

The government said that from 16th August, children will no longer be required to automatically self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive covid-19 case. Instead, you may be advised to take your child for a PCR test if they have been deemed to be in close contact with a positive case.

It is important to note that any child who receives a positive PCR test will still be expected to isolate for 10 days and will not be able to attend school during that period. It is also important that you inform school as soon as possible should this occur.

Please note, if anyone develops [COVID-19 symptoms](#), however mild, we are required to send them home in line with public health advice.

NORTHBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL

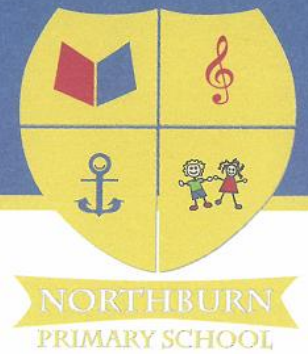
Horton Drive, Cramlington, Northumberland NE23 3QS

Tel: 01670 739111

Email: admin@northburn.northumberland.sch.uk

www.northburn.northumberland.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Clare Scott



Our children are no longer required to remain in 'Bubbles' and can mix in the school dinner hall and at playtimes with their friends from other classes. We can also return to having assemblies in the hall. Initially, I plan to have year group/ phase assemblies and continue to have virtual whole school assemblies for the first half term. It is no longer required to have a one-way system or for parents and staff to wear masks.

The new guidance is clear that enhanced cleaning, hand hygiene and good ventilation should all remain in place and we will ensure that these remain a key part of our ongoing covid safety measures. For the first couple of weeks back at school, your child will need to wear their PE kit on their designated PE day. I will review this early in the term and before the weather becomes more autumnal. Your child will be told their PE day on the first day back and they will write it in their Blue book. We will also email the timetable to you.

Keeping our community safe:

I am very aware that there will be a wide range of views among families regarding the latest government guidance. As you will understand, as a school we are expected to have due regard for this new national guidance, as well as the additional local guidance provided to us by Northumberland local authority.

In addition to following national guidance, as required by law, we have carried out specific risk assessments to take into account the unique nature of our school and the school community.

I also want to reassure you that we have already developed comprehensive contingency plans should we either have an increase of covid-19 cases in the school or an increase of cases in the local community. Should either of these occur, we will be in immediate contact with the local public health team and will act on their advice without delay. We all hope this won't be necessary, but should it occur, we may be told to bring back some more of the safety measures that have been in place previously.

What you need to know for the first day:

When should I arrive and where should my child line up?

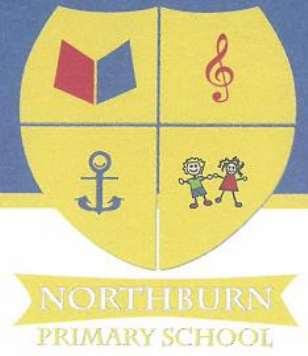
Nursery (Mrs Farrier)

Morning Nursery session 8.45am-11.45am

Afternoon Nursery session 12.15pm- 3.15pm

Full time Nursery provision 8.45am-3.15pm

Please enter by the Nursery doors. Staff will be there to greet you.



Reception classes 2&3 (Mrs Boxshall, Mrs Coull, Mrs Palmer)

8.50am start and 3.10pm finish.

Please line up in front of Reception doors. Staff will be there to greet you and to answer questions you may have. They will be dismissed from the same doors.

Year 1 & Year 2 classes-4, 5, 6 (Mr Aird, Miss Young, Miss Slowther)

8.45 am start and 3.10pm finish.

Please line up in classes, in front of the allotment in the large playground. They will be dismissed from the same area.

Year 3 & year 4 classes- 7, 8, 9 (Mrs Cowan, Mrs Wallace, Miss Harrison, Mr Boxshall)

8.45am start and 3.10pm finish.

Classes 7 and 8 (Mrs Cowan, Mrs Wallace, Miss Harrison)

Please line up in classes outside LKS2 doors.

Class 9 (Mr Boxshall)

There will be a place identified for you to line up in the big playground near to the school allotment. There will be staff there to direct you.

They will be dismissed from the same doors.

Year 5 and Year 6 classes-10, 11, 12, 13 (Ms Nicholson, Miss Dawson, Miss Hurst, Miss Boden)

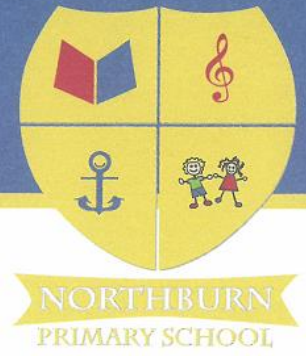
8.45am start and 3.10pm finish.

Children are encouraged to walk to and from school themselves. When they arrive, they can walk straight into school via the UKS2 doors.

Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 can walk to and from school by themselves, however parental permission must be provided for children in Year 4.

If your child gets school transport to school, they will be notified by school transport directly as to the taxi they will be allocated to.

Breakfast Club will be operating. It will open from 7.40am @ £3.50/ session. You will need to book a place for your child in advance using our online booking system. Places will be limited.



All children will be asked to wash their hands when they arrive.

What will my child need to bring/wear to school on the first day?

- A named water bottle.
- A named packed lunch (unless they are having a school hot dinner).
- A coat.
- Sun cream applied if the weather if the forecast is for the sun to shine.

They will not need any pens or pencils.

Your child will not need to wear their PE kit on the first day. We will send out information letting you know when they will need to wear their PE kit.

Your child can bring in a mobile phone **only** if they walk to and from school themselves. They will need to hand it in to the office when they arrive at school.

Milk and snacks.

As far as I am aware, we will be receiving fruit for children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 and Year 2. For the first week, milk will be available for all children in Nursery and Reception. Milk will be available for children in Year 1 and Year 2 for those that have ordered it. If you have not ordered milk for your child (Year 1 and 2) and would like them to have it, let the office know and we can arrange that for you.

Children are welcome to bring in a healthy snack. **No nuts or chocolate please.**

I think that is all the information you will need for the first day! Your child will be given their new Blue book on their first day. We have updated them, hopefully you will find the information in them useful.

I know that this will be a worrying time for many of you and especially those of you who are new to Northburn. I am confident that we have been able to implement all government safety recommendations. Staff are mindful that your child may be anxious and have planned activities to support their well-being and help them to settle.

I will be in school next week so if you do have any questions please call or email.

Enjoy the rest of your holiday and I'll see you on Tuesday 7th September.

Clare Scott

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