



# St. Cuthbert's Primary School

seahamstcuthberts@durhamlearning.net | 0191 5813090 | Mill Road, Seaham, SR7 0HW

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents,

Following the Prime Minister's announcement that schools will be opening for some pupils from 1<sup>st</sup> June for some of our children, staff and governors have been working to formulate a plan which will allow us to open safely. We have consulted the latest government guidelines and union advice to reach a plan which will see us welcoming back our children **from 15<sup>th</sup> June**.

There has been much speculation and debate in the media on the benefits and concerns about bringing more children back into school by this date, and the challenge it is presenting to us all cannot be underestimated. There is a balance which needs to be found between ensuring measures are put in place to limit, as far as is possible, the risk of transmission of the virus, and ensuring that our children still feel safe, secure and 'at home' in school.

The safety of our children and staff continues to be the number one priority and we will continually review the situation to ensure, as far as we can, that we are creating a safe environment for everyone whilst at school. Having said that, the government has recognised that social distancing will be impossible and we must be realistic about measures that can be put in place. According to government guidelines we must:

- minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend childcare settings, schools or colleges.
- clean hands more often than usual - wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with running water and soap and dry them thoroughly or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered.
- ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- clean frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents and bleach.
- minimise contact and mixing by altering, as much as possible, the environment (such as classroom layout) and timetables (such as staggered break times).

We have carried out a comprehensive risk assessment of our setting in order to implement a plan for reopening which is available for you to read.

In order to welcome back as many children as possible whilst minimising the risk of infection, governors have decided the following:

- School will continue to be open to the children of key workers from other year groups (8:30am-3:30pm). They must be dropped off and collected at a designated point in the school yard.  
These children will be taught by Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Eadsforth and Miss Schroder. Mrs Wilkinson will teach them on a Wednesday when there is only this group in school.
- On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June all children in Y6 will return to school (9am-3.15pm and 9.15am - 3.30pm) - we will notify you individually about what group your child is in. They must be dropped off and collected at designated points in the school yard.  
These children will be taught by Mrs Parlett, Mrs Prest and Mrs Lambert (Group 1) and Miss Huntley and Mrs Donnelly (Group 2)
- On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June all children in Year 1 will return to school (8.45am- 3pm). They must be dropped off and collected at a designated point in the school yard.  
These children will be taught by Mr Boyle, Mrs Wilkinson and Mr Graham.
- On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June all children in Reception class will return to school (8.45am- 3pm).



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Parents will drop off and collect their children from the Daisy Path gate at the side of school, NOT the main school gate.

These children will be taught by Mrs Groark, Mrs Dickinson and Mr Marshall.

- School will close on Wednesdays to allow for deep cleaning. This will also be carried out on Fridays. Key worker children will still be provided for on Wednesdays.

**It is very important that you are not late for your drop off and collection times otherwise parents from different groups will cross over.** It is essential that parents observe social distancing measures when in and around the school site. We must insist that all children, including Year 6 are collected from school otherwise we are unable to ensure that they socially distance on their way home from school.

**Parents who are Key workers:** When dropping off, you need to leave your children at the designated drop off point on the school yard. When collecting children, you must make yourself known to the school office and then walk onto the yard to the designated collection point for your child. The office will let the class teacher know you are there and the class teacher will dismiss your child. You still need to notify us of the provision you need the previous week via the usual google form you receive. On a Wednesday, they can be dropped off and collected at the school office as they will be taught in the hall to enable classrooms to be deep cleaned.

Children will be spread throughout the school in smaller groups, with between 8 and 14 children per group. They will remain in groups with the same children and the same members of staff for their time in school throughout the week. This may mean that they are not working with their usual teacher and that they are not mixing with all of their friends. More detail about the school plans for minimising contact can be found in the risk assessment document. Please take the time to read it.

All children in Reception Class and Year One are eligible for a free school meal as part of the Universal School Meals programme. The school kitchen will be providing a cooked meal to all children who usually have a school meal. Those pupils in Year Six who usually pay to have a school meal may continue to do so. If parents would rather provide their own packed lunch, please inform the school office by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June.

The children should wear a school jumper and polo shirt with bottoms and shoes that are suitable for outdoor learning and active time. The children will be outside every day and will not be changing into PE kit. It is essential the clothes they wear are laundered at the end of each day and they are in clean clothes for each new day.

Children should not bring anything with them to school other than what is absolutely necessary. Please apply sunscreen if necessary each morning. If your child needs to bring it in, it will be kept at their workstation. The only bag they will be allowed to bring will be a packed lunch bag and this should be disposable. They should only bring a coat if it is needed on that day. They will keep everything they bring in at their own work station. All equipment needed for work will be provided by school. The children should not wear jewellery including earrings or bring a mobile phone.

We understand that it is an anxious time for parents and children and we hope that you are reassured by the risk assessment provided. All staff are doing everything possible to support the



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implementation of the risk minimising measures. It is essential that parents are doing the same. I have included an advice sheet which we encourage you to familiarise yourselves with. **If you decide not to send your child back to school, it is essential that you continue homelearning.**

For those year groups not in school, teachers will continue to provide online learning and we strongly encourage you to engage with teachers regularly by sharing your work and news. Some year groups will not be expected back until September so children should be trying to do some work every day at home. All our staff will be back in school teaching so contact will not be as frequent and type of work may not be in as much detail. Please bear this in mind.

**We will continually review this provision.** We look forward to welcoming back your children. If you have any questions regarding our planning for reopening please contact me on [n.noble@stcuthbertsprimary.com](mailto:n.noble@stcuthbertsprimary.com).

Thank you for the support you have shown to the school throughout this unprecedented time.

Best very wishes,  
Nicola Noble