

Dear Reception class parents,

From September, school will reopen for all pupils. We know you will have many questions and we hope to be able to address some of them here. We also know that changes can be problematic and that we may have teething problems. Every change we have made has been to comply with government guidelines and this is the way, at the minute, staff and governors feel they can best provide the safest school environment. Thank you in advance for working with us on this.

When will school be fully open?

- Term will begin for pupils from Year 1 – 6 on Wednesday 2nd September. Children in Reception class will come for stay and play sessions between 2nd- 11th September, will attend every morning (14th-18th September) and will be in school full time from Monday 21st September.

What are the times for the school day?

- We have altered the school timetable slightly so that we have staggered start and end times.

	Start time	Finish time
Reception Class	8:45 - 9:00	3:00
Year 1	8:45 - 9:00	3:15
Year 2	8:45 - 8:55	3:15
Year 3	8:45 - 8:55	3:15
Year 4	8:30 - 8:45	3:25
Year 5	8:30 - 8:45	3:25
Year 6	8:30 - 8:45	3:25

What are morning drop off arrangements?

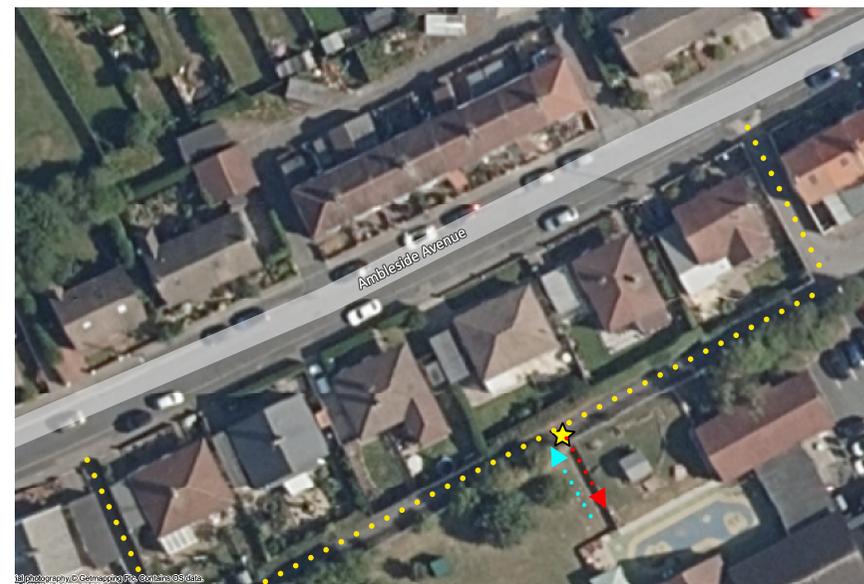
- We have altered morning drop off arrangements to avoid congestion on the yard. Reception class pupils should **arrive at school between 8:45 and 9:00**
- Parents should drop their children at the Daisy Path gate where they will be met by a member of staff and taken into class.

What are afternoon collection time arrangements?

- Reception class pupils **finish school at 3:00pm.**
- Parents or guardians should follow the collection path from the Daisy Path gate maintaining social distancing. Please do not arrive earlier than 2.55pm as there will be no waiting on the yard.

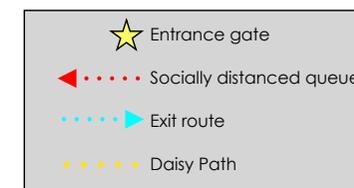
Are we able to use the church car park?

- Fr. Hastie has kindly allowed us to use the church car park. Please ensure you arrive within your time slot **and do not wait around in the church car park. If Fr. Hastie feels social distancing is not being adhered to in the car park he may close it.**
- Please, where possible, walk, scoot or cycle to or from school. Even walking part of the way will help us to ease congestion.



Children should be dropped off at the gate each morning.

For afternoon pick ups, please follow the socially distanced markings on the path and yard to a waiting point. Your child will be dismissed to you at which point we would ask you to leave the school site promptly following the exit route.



What happens if I have a place at Breakfast Club for my children?

- Please drop your child/children at the main door **before 8:15** where they will be met by a member of staff and taken straight to their own bubble for breakfast club. Children in Reception class can begin attending breakfast club from Monday 21st September.

What happens if I have children in different year groups?

- If you have older pupils from Y2 to Y6 then please take your older child to the main gate before taking your Reception child to the Daisy Path gate.
- On an afternoon, you can collect both of your children at whatever **the latest collection time** is.
- For example, if you have children in Reception class and Year 1, both children can be collected at 3:15 from the Daisy Path.
- If you have an older child in Y2 - 3, please collect your younger child first then make your way to the main gate for your older child. Staff will stay with them until you arrive.
- If you have an older child in Years 4 - 6 then you can collect all of your children at the later time of 3:25 from the main yard. Staff will take the younger children to the main yard.

What is a bubble and how many children will be in my child's bubble?

- A bubble is a group within the school that doesn't mix with other groups
- St Cuthbert's has 7 classes but we will have 3 bubbles. **Yellow bubble is Reception class and Y1**. Red bubble is Y2 and Y3. Green bubble is Y4, Y5 and Y6. Each bubble has their own toilet areas, will have breakfast club and play times together and will share lunchtime staff
- Your Reception class pupil will be in a bubble of 60 pupils but each within their own classroom. They will only be in larger groups of 60 outside, for lunch or in the school hall for a R/Y1 assembly. Assemblies will not last more than 15 minutes and classes will be kept apart.

How will break times and lunchtimes be organised?

- In Reception class, pupils will have lunch from 11:50 in the dinner hall supervised by two members of lunchtime staff. They will share the space with other pupils in the Yellow Bubble
- Children will sit in their year groups for lunch, not house groups
- Playtimes in the morning and after lunch will be on the school field or in the EYFS yard supervised by staff in their bubble
- Lunchtime will run from 11:50 – 12:50

How will the curriculum change?

- We are aware that some children will not have been able to attend nursery before the summer and they have not been able to make their usual visits to school. We will make sure the transition from nursery to Reception class is not rushed.
- We have planned a recovery curriculum. This means that we will initially prioritise the wellbeing of pupils, re-establishing routines and relationships, helping them feel safe and focusing on mental health and physical health. We will plan plenty of opportunities for outdoor learning as well as lots of art, music and creativity and most importantly the chance to play and build new friendships.
- We will also focus initially on reading, writing, maths and RE to ensure we help pupils have a strong start to school. You can find out more by looking at our Recovery Curriculum document on the school website
- By half term, we will reintroduce a full range of subjects but continue to have mental and physical health at the heart of our curriculum
- You can find out more information and details about what your child will be learning in the first half term on your child's class page of the school website

How will classrooms and routines change?

- The Reception classroom will have a few desks arranged in tables. Pupils will be able to share equipment within their classroom. There will be opportunities to play and work together as well as building routines of working in their own work space and having their own spot on the carpet.
- There is access to the EYFS yard.
- There will be no house groups sessions or whole school liturgies or assemblies. There will be 'bubble' assemblies or liturgies but classes will be kept apart and these will last no longer than 15 minutes.

What other health and safety measures will be in place?

- Staff will ensure that pupils use hand gel and wash their hands regularly and at key times throughout the day e.g. when entering the building, break times, before and after using the toilet, before lunch.
- Tissues, hand gel and lidded bins are available in all areas to ensure a "catch it, bin it, kill it" culture.
- A cleaner will be on site from 12:00 – 1:15 each day to clean classrooms, corridors, touch points and toilet areas during lunchtime
- Classes will have their own entry and exit points so there will be no congestion in corridors
- If pupils require any first aid or intimate care, staff will use suitable PPE

Will school uniform change?

- School uniform will remain the same. School jumper or cardigan; white polo shirt; black or grey trousers, pinafore or skirt; plain black shoes, boots or trainers. Please note that no jogging bottoms, leggings or lycra skirts are permitted as part of normal uniform
- **No jewellery will be permitted. This includes earrings.** This is because there will be increased daily active time where pupils will be outdoors. Taping up ears is not permissible.
- Watches, including smart watches, are permitted provided they have no data / internet connectivity and must be removed for activity.
- Long hair should be tied back at all times.
- Pupils should come to school in outdoor PE kit on their PE days. This will help us reduce contact e.g. helping pupils to change, tie shoe laces etc. This should be outdoor kit - a school PE t-shirt, school jumper, trainers and plain grey or black jogging bottoms / leggings (no patterns or bright colours). You will be informed of your child's PE days before September.
- You can find out more details in the uniform policy and home-school agreement on our school website

What should / can my child bring into school?

- Pupils must have a named, reusable water bottle. This will be sent home daily to be cleaned.
- Pupils must have indoor PE kit – shorts, t-shirt and plimsolls
- Pupils must have indoor shoes – this can be the plimsolls they have in their PE kit
- No toys should be brought into school
- Mrs Groark will explain the new arrangements for 'show and tell' in September.

Will after school clubs run?

- We have no set times for clubs yet but clubs will be able to run within bubbles.

Home/school communication

- Tapestry is essential for Reception class parents. It is an online journal of your child's time at school. Parents can add to this journal, but importantly, messages and letters will be communicated to parents via Tapestry. We will give you details to login in September.

Can I keep my child at home if I have anxieties about them returning to school?

- The government have been clear that all pupils, unless they are shielding, are required to return to school
- Local Authorities will be resuming their usual fining systems for unauthorised absences
- You can find out more details in the Attendance Policy and Attendance Addendum on our school website

What will happen if a child displays symptoms in school?

- If your child shows any symptoms in school they will be taken to an isolated and room and remain with a member of staff until you are able to collect them. You will need to engage with the NHS test and trace programme via the NHS website
- If another child in your child's class displays any symptoms then, following their removal from class, all other pupils will thoroughly wash hands and be taken outside / to another area while the classroom is thoroughly cleaned
- If there is a **confirmed case** in your child's class, school will immediately contact our Health Protection Team to discuss next steps.

What will happen if school has to close again?

- We very much hope that whole school closure will not happen again. However, we have developed a Continuity of Education plan in line with government guidance. You can read this in full on our school website.
- If your child is self-isolating but is well, we will include them in lessons via Zoom for some time each day and provide them with online or paper based learning.
- If a bubble within school is self-isolating, learning for Reception class will be via Tapestry and will include video lessons from the staff in EYFS. If you are unable to access Tapestry you must inform school so alternative plans can be made.
- If there is a school-wide or local area lockdown, learning will be via Tapestry and will include video lessons from the staff in KS1. If you are unable to access Tapestry you must inform school so alternative plans can be made.
- There is an expectation that, unless your child is ill, they complete learning set by school in these situations

Are parents able to come into school?

- At the moment **parents should not come into school**. There will be no assemblies or volunteers within the school building.
- **Please do not call into the school office**. Please contact school using the following means and if you need to see a member of staff we will make an appointment for you where we can safely socially distance.

Telephone: 0191 581 3090

email: seahamstcuthberts@durhamlearning.net
n.noble@stcuthbertsprimary.com
e.parlett@stcuthbertsprimary.com

website: www.stcuthbertsprimary.com
please see class pages to contact your child's class teacher

Thank you for taking the time to read through this summary of changes. We know the transition to school can be a worrying time in normal circumstances for parents so please rest assured that staff will build changes in slowly when they feel pupils are settled and ready. There are full risk assessments and policies on our school website which you can refer to if you would like further detail. As ever, thank you for your continued support in changes and systems during these unprecedented times. If you have any further questions that need clarifying, please contact Mrs Noble or Mrs Parlett.

N. Noble & the Governing Body