



Nightingale Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Hannah Beckett

Wednesday 3rd March, 2021

Back to School!

Dear Parents,

It is time to brush the cobwebs from your school uniforms (and check that it still fits) and start preparing your children for the return to school on Monday 8th March.

As each day passes we hear more good news regarding infection rates decreasing nationally, more people we know are getting vaccinated and there are clearer plans for the path out of lockdown. With the addition of the spring sunshine and flowers starting to bloom around us, it is starting to be easier to feel more positive about the future.

Whilst you have all been superheroes, supporting your children with their remote education, I am sure many of you were also delighted to hear that all children can return to school next week. We are so excited to see you all and to be together once again. However, this cannot happen without everyone following strict control measures to ensure that we can keep each other safe and continue to move forward together towards a brighter and less socially distanced future.

In recent weeks there has been a lot of coverage in the press and social media regarding 'missed learning', 'catch up requirements', the disadvantage this will cause your child and even extensions of the school day to allow for catch up when we know how hard everyone has been working! Our children should not be made to feel that they are 'behind', or that they will be 'held back' in life by circumstances out of their control. They are amazing and our school staff care deeply about supporting them, teaching them and enabling them to be the very best they can be. We will continue to work hard to tell your child that they can do it and that we believe in them; they have a long, bright future ahead of them and we will get there together. We ask you for your support by sharing this vision with us.

School attendance is once again mandatory, so we are expecting all of our children to return. As always, starting the day on time is always the best way to start any day so please ensure that you allow yourself/your child the time needed to get to school for a prompt start.

Please do take the time to read through the information below, refreshing and updating yourselves on all of our safety measures. School staff work so hard from day to day to keep your children safe in school and it can be difficult to see guidance and our safety measures ignored. We politely ask that everyone supports us in following these to enable all children and staff to return safely to school.



- The wearing of face masks and social distancing on school site must be strictly adhered to.
- Where possible, arrive at the set times only and minimise any waiting around time. **Key Stage 2 children** can be dropped off at the gate to make their way into school independently.
- Only one adult family member to come on site to drop off and pick up.
- Face to face messages to staff on the playground to be kept to a minimum. Teachers and learning support assistants are always very busy greeting their children and organising them ready for a prompt start to the school day.
- Breakfast club and Afterschool Energykidz will be available for wraparound care. Make your bookings online at the earliest opportunity.
- School lunches are available and should be ordered in advance, online where possible. A copy of the menu is available on the school website.
- Break and lunchtimes will continue to be staggered similarly to how we have been operating previously.
- The children will return to being organised into their Class Bubble.
- Bike shed and scooter parks closed to all except Year 6s.
- Children may only bring their lunchbox (if needed), water bottle, a coat, and their book bag containing just their school books. Children must not bring their own pencil cases etc. All school equipment will be provided by the school. They should bring nothing else to school other than what is listed above.
- Children must bring in their PE kits, in a clearly named PE bag, to be kept in school until the Easter holidays.

Drop off and pick up times

We will continue to stagger our start and finish times to minimise the amount of people we have on site at one time and promote physical distance. PLEASE NOTE the change in timings for Year 1 and Year 4.

| | Arrival Time | Home Time | Gates to use & line up location |
|------------|--------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Kingfisher | 8:45am | 3:10pm | Aviary, outside Year R |
| Woodpecker | 8:55am | 3:20pm | Aviary, outside Year R |
| 1 | 9:00am | 3:25pm | Jackdaw Rise, Large Playground |
| 2 | 8:55am | 3:20pm | Swimming Pool, Small Playground |
| 3 | 8:45am | 3:10pm | Swimming Pool, Small Playground |
| 4 | 9:00am | 3:25pm | Aviary, outside of hall |
| 5 | 8:55am | 3:20pm | Jackdaw Rise, Large Playground |
| 6 | 8:45am | 3:10pm | Jackdaw, Rise Large Playground |

Remote Learning Journals

Remote Learning Journals need to come back into school and be handed to class teachers. We know that some of you got through two of these!

Staff Testing

Staff lateral flow testing continues. Testing of our staff supports us in being open for as many children as safely possible. This programme of testing aims to identify people with coronavirus (COVID-19) before they develop symptoms, or if they are asymptomatic. Please note that there are no government plans to test primary aged children in school and the results of staff tests will remain confidential at all times.

Laptops

During this lockdown, we have loaned many laptops to support families in accessing their Remote Education. These now need to be returned to our school office with the bags and boxes they were sent out in. Many thanks for taking good care of these.

Miss Goodleff will be waiting outside the office ready to receive the laptops on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th March.

Parking

Only staff and those with valid parking permits are to access the staff car park. Please remember to be considerate when parking outside school, ensuring you do not block our gates, neighbour's driveways or park over the zig-zag lines or double yellow lines. Parents must not park in the Aviary Car park unless they are collecting children from there.

Finally, we want to reassure you that we remain committed to ensuring that meaningful, exciting and inspiring learning will still take place and school is a positive experience for all our children, providing a broad curriculum. Because of your children's excellent engagement with remote learning, we expect to be able to continue to deliver the curriculum, whilst supporting children who may need some additional support to access the ongoing learning.

We shall share with you the learning highlights at the end of this term in our half termly newsletter!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Hannah Beckett
Headteacher