

Newsham Primary School Blyth

Warwick Street, Blyth, Northumberland. NE24 4NX

Tel: 01670 353124 Email: schooladmin@newshamprimary.sch.uk



Headteacher: Mrs. Anne-Marie Armstrong

22nd June 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am sure that everyone will be aware of the extension to national restrictions that was announced at the beginning of last week. The four-week delay takes us to Monday, July 19th by which time school will have closed for the summer break. I therefore need to set out our plans for the end of this year and the start of the autumn term, as I will not be able to do this so easily when school is closed.

I know you all understand how difficult the past sixteen months has been for everyone in so many different ways and I am incredibly grateful to you all for the support and encouragement you have extended towards everyone in school during this time. As Headteacher, I am relying in the faith and confidence you have in my leadership. As always, I am doing everything I can to keep everyone involved in the life of our school safe and secure. I am also relying on your understanding as I continue to move forward with caution while things remain so uncertain. I still have no plans to reintroduce Breakfast Club or After School Club at this stage in the planning process. These clubs involve a high degree of mixing from children across school and I need to evaluate the situation around Coronavirus when school reopens in September.

In terms of the information you need in readiness for the end of this academic year and the start of the new year in September, I will detail the main information in bullet points below;

- End of year events such as Sports Day, Transfer Day, Y6 Leavers etc cannot take place in the usual way due to bubble restrictions and other Covid secure systems that are in place throughout school. We will share modified arrangements with you via email and our school website asap but already know that we'll be relying on virtual and remote systems to share some of our events with families.
- Mrs Elton (Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for Nursery and Reception) will contact families separately with all the arrangements for children in these year groups.
- **School closes to all pupils on Friday, July 16th 2021 at the usual staggered finishing times. School reopens on Tuesday, September 7th. Staggered start and finish times still apply and are detailed in the table at the end of this letter. As parents and carers, you will need to check the times and gates carefully for the year group(s) your children are moving up to in September.**
- **No parents or carers will be able to come onto the school site in September without prior arrangement.**
- **Drop off and collection times need to be prompt and punctual.** We do not have time to deal with late arrivals as children from other year groups will be arriving and / or gates will need to be locked therefore please ensure prompt arrival at your allocated time.
- **We will continue to use telephone, email and other virtual communication systems to keep in contact with you** and would encourage you to send an email to our school admin address, or phone our school office if you need any help or support during these times. **PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS IS CHANGING AND FROM SEPTEMBER, YOU MUST USE THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS;**
schooladmin@newshamprimary.co.uk

Staggered start and collection times/entry exit arrangements:

Year Group	Entry Points	Start Time	Exit Point	Finish Time
Nursery	There is no change to Nursery times and the main entrance next to the automated barrier should be used. Staff will be based at the bungalow to organise handover arrangements.			
Reception	Pedestrian Gate at automated barrier entrance – walk along the path and line up at the red cone outside the Reception green gate – staff will take the children from you.	9.00 am	Main Drive – line up at the same place as the morning and staff will dismiss children to you.	3.30 pm
Y1	Field Gate – walk along the new walkway (no stopping and maintaining social distancing) drop children at their class line - parent continues walking and exits via the ramp gate .	8.35 am	Parents enter site from Field Gate and walk up the path maintaining social distance. They collect pupils from the Key Stage 1 yard and exit via the ramp gate . If parents are collecting pupils from more than one Year Group from 1-4, they must wait in the designated area, which will be clearly marked, to collect children from older year groups.	3.05 pm
Y2	Field Gate – walk along the new walkway (no stopping and maintaining social distancing) drop children at their class line - parent continues walking and exits via the ramp gate .	8.40 am		3.10 pm
Y3	Field Gate – pupils only walk along the new walkway to their class line.	8.45 am		3.15 pm
Y4	Field Gate – pupils only walk along the new walkway to their class line.	8.50 am		3.20 pm
Y5	Ramp Gate – opened at 8.50am come into yard and line up.	8.55 am		3.25 pm
Y6	Ramp Gate – opened at 8.55am come into yard and line up.	9.00 am		3.30 pm

I hope this letter helps to provide clarity and whilst we are all very disappointed that life cannot fully return to normal, the safety of our school community is my absolute priority and I take this responsibility very seriously.

I really do appreciate your constant support and the faith you place in the decisions I make for everyone involved in the life of our wonderful school.

Take care and stay safe.

A-M Armstrong

Mrs. A-M Armstrong
Headteacher