

Newsham Primary School Blyth

Warwick Street, Blyth, Northumberland. NE24 4NX

Tel: 01670 353124 Email: admin@newshamprimary.northumberland.sch.uk



Headteacher: Mrs. Anne-Marie Armstrong

3rd September 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Further to my letter dated 14th July 2021, I wanted to write with my final arrangements for the start of the school year.

I will try to keep this information as brief as possible as there is a lot to share. Apologies in advance if it appears blunt or less chatty than my usual letters, but it is important that I concentrate on sharing my decisions at this stage.

My decisions in this letter are based on careful monitoring of the Covid-19 situation throughout the summer at a national and local level. I have also considered this week's situation in relation to positive cases in Northumberland and unfortunately, there are more cases in the ward of Newsham than anywhere else in the county. I need to plan with this information in mind and recognise that the months that lie ahead are clearly uncertain for us all.

Despite the cautious approach that I am adopting above, I do want life to return to normal in as many areas as possible. This is important for everyone's mental health and well being. It is also important to give the children the very best chance of educational attainment and they need to be in school every day to enable this to happen.

In terms of the information you need in readiness for the start of term, I will detail the main information in bullet points below;

- Bubbles will formally cease to exist in school but we will retain some zones and separation arrangements throughout school where possible.
- Staggered start and finishing times will cease and school will start at 8.40am for all pupils apart from Nursery pupils. Children can arrive at school between 8.30am and 8.40am.
- There will currently be no changes to access to the school site for parents and carers. I need to maintain this restriction as one of my efforts to keep everyone as safe as possible. Please refer to the table that accompanies this letter for arrangements for your child's year group.

- Children will soon be able to bring their bikes or scooters to school again but we need to implement our new system first so PLEASE DO NOT LET YOUR CHILD BRING THEIR BIKE OR SCOOTER TO SCHOOL UNTIL WE PROVIDE THE STARTING DATE.
- Children can now bring their personal bags and pencil cases to school but please remember, no toys etc.
- We are unable to restart Breakfast Club or After School Club at this time. I'm very sorry about this and for any inconvenience this may cause.
- We will continue to use telephone 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 HAS CHANGED AND FROM SEPTEMBER, YOU MUST USE THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS;
schooladmin@newshamprimary.co.uk

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

School reopens at 8.40am on Tuesday, 7th September and we can't wait to see everyone again.

Take care and stay safe.

A-M Armstrong

Mrs. A-M Armstrong
Headteacher

	Nursery am	Nursery pm	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	Parents must accompany children for drop off and collection	Parents must accompany children for drop off and collection	Parents must accompany children for drop off and collection	Parents may accompany children for drop off	Parents may accompany children for drop off	Parents should not accompany children to drop off unless absolutely essential	Parents should not accompany children to drop off unless absolutely essential	Parents should not accompany children to drop off unless absolutely essential	Parents must not accompany children to drop off unless absolutely essential
Entrance and Exit points	Main school entrance – barrier gate. Drop children at, and collect from the school bungalow	Main school entrance – barrier gate. Drop children at, and collect from the school bungalow	Main school entrance – Pedestrian. Drop children at, and collect from Reception. Exit school via most convenient gate	Enter using the field or ramp gate. Drop children at, and collect from, classroom. Exit school via the field or ramp gate	Enter using the field or ramp gate. Drop children at, and collect from, classroom. Exit school via the field or ramp gate	Enter using the field or ramp gate. Drop children at, and collect from, classroom. Exit school via the field or ramp gate	Enter using the field or ramp gate. Drop children at, and collect from, classroom. Exit school via the field or ramp gate	Enter using the field or ramp gate. Drop children at, and collect from, classroom. Exit school via the field or ramp gate	Enter using the field or ramp gate. Drop children at, and collect from, classroom. Exit school via the field or ramp gate
Morning gate times	8.30am		8.30am – 8.40am	8.30am – 8.40am	8.30am – 8.40am	8.30am – 8.40am	8.30am – 8.40am	8.30am – 8.40am	8.30am – 8.40am
School starts	8.30am	12.15pm	8.40am	8.40am	8.40am	8.40am	8.40am	8.40am	8.40am
Afternoon gate times		3.10pm – 3.20pm	3.10pm – 3.20pm	3.10pm – 3.20pm	3.10pm – 3.20pm	3.10pm – 3.20pm	3.10pm – 3.20pm	3.10pm – 3.20pm	3.10pm – 3.20pm
School finishes	11.30am	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm

- Parents / carers of children in Nursery and or Reception, who also have children in Y1-6, may use the main gate for all children; older children will then use the gate at school reception to access the top yard then go to their appropriate zone.
- Families with more than one child in school should collect the oldest child first and the youngest last.
- Bikes and scooters are now permitted in school. Helmets must be worn and all bikes / scooters must be locked. Bikes and scooters must not be ridden inside of the school gates.