



## Nelson Primary School

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Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to welcoming all children back at Nelson on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. This has been a difficult time for everyone and we understand it has impacted all families in different ways. Some children have not been in school since 20th March and may be worried about returning while others will be excited to get back to school and see their friends and teachers. We will be working to support all children on their return and look forward to welcoming them back to Nelson in our usual friendly manner.

Children will be returning full time to their new class teachers and should wear full school uniform, we will apply a flexible approach to this during the first half term. Instead of keeping PE kits at school, children will be asked to wear them in to school on the days they have PE and stay in them all day. You will be informed of the days for your class once the children return.

The one-way system will remain in place on the playground with the gates opening from 8.40am until 9am, to enable us to stagger entry. Year 1 should enter the school via the Runnymede Close entrance and all other children via the main school entrance. When you arrive please follow the arrows which will take you via the bike shed, the Year 3 and 4 classrooms, the ship and then exit via the main gate. Children should go straight into class as they arrive so that parents can drop off siblings and leave the playground quickly. Parents must not enter the school building (unless they have a pre-arranged appointment) and should contact staff by email or phone via the school office. I will be on the gate each day should you have any questions.

The end of day times will revert to normal, 3.05pm for EYFS and KS1, and 3.10pm for KS2.

Children will be washing their hands regularly throughout the day, as they enter school and before they leave, after breaks, lunchtime, PE etc. We will be encouraging children to use the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' technique. All classrooms have soap, antibacterial hand gel, tissues and bins to facilitate this.

The government recognises that younger children will not be able to maintain social distancing and have stated that it is acceptable for children not to distance within their group. Therefore, children will remain in their class or year group bubbles, with lunch and playtime organised to ensure appropriate social distancing between the bubbles can take place. Assemblies will only take place in year groups. Cake sales and class assemblies will not be scheduled for the Autumn term.

All classrooms will be set up with tables facing the teacher at the front of the class. For individual and very frequently used equipment, such as pencils and pens, children will be given their own items that will not be shared. Classroom-based resources, such as books and games, will be used and shared within the bubble and cleaned regularly, along with all frequently

touched surfaces. We ask that children only bring essentials into school each day such as lunch boxes, bags, water bottles, hats, coats, books and stationery.

All toilets will be cleaned at lunchtime and afterschool along with door handles, sinks and communal areas.

As many of our classrooms lead out onto the playground, children will be encouraged to access different parts of the building externally, e.g. when going to the lunch hall. This will stop any overcrowding of corridors.

Children who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, **must not attend school**. If any pupils display signs of infection during the school day they will be taken to the Aqua room (this will not be used by any other children), their parents will be contacted and they will be taken home immediately– the parents are advised to follow ‘stay at home guidance’ and to contact NHS 111 immediately or call 999 if the child becomes seriously ill or their life is at risk. Other members of their household (including siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

Should a child or member of staff test positive for Covid 19, the school will actively engage with NHS Test and Trace and contact our local Public Health England health protection team who will advise us on next steps.

Children will have all of these changes explained to them in an age appropriate way when they return to school on Thursday. We look forward to seeing you then.

Kind regards,

Anna Steels

Headteacher