

1 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome Back!

We hope you've had a lovely summer break and are excited about returning (or starting) school in September. Just a reminder that we return to school on Wednesday 8th September. Staff will be ready on the yard to greet you all.

Confirmation of our September arrangements can be found below.

School Times - We will return to our normal school times from September.

Little Learners	Session 1	8.40-11.40
	Session 2	12.15-15.15
Nursery	AM	8.30-11.30
	PM	12.20-15.20
	Full day	8.30-14.30
Reception, Year 1 and Year 2		8.50-15.15
Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6		8.40-15.30

Routes on and off the school sites - Due to the success of the one-way systems, parents and families will be expected to continue to use the one-way system initially in September, however, this will be reviewed later in the year.

Uniform including PE uniform - The school's uniform will remain the same and children will be expected to wear their PE Uniform on the days they have PE. Your child's teacher will let you know which day this is.

Bubbles and Self-Isolation - From Monday 16th August there will be no need for adults to self-isolate as a close contact if they have been double vaccinated. Children also do not need to isolate due to contact at that point but will be asked to undertake a PCR test. This means that we should not have to close 'bubbles' if there is a positive case of covid. People who are positive with Covid themselves will still need to isolate. This means we no longer need to keep the children in consistent groups, known as 'bubbles'.

Hand Hygiene - We will continue to ask children to wash their hands regularly and will continue to provide hand sanitiser; the children and staff have got into good habits with this, so we want to continue this into the winter months to reduce the risk of more viruses spreading.

Face Coverings - Staff and adults, including family members, will no longer be required to wear a face mask (including on the school yards) but staff will continue to do so in situations outside of the classroom where social distancing or ventilation may be difficult to maintain. Pupils should not wear a mask to school.

Ventilation - Each school site will operate a ventilation plan with each room considered to ensure that air circulates. Rooms will not however be ventilated to the detriment to any safeguarding measures

Enhanced Cleaning - We will continue to employ additional cleaning staff to ensure that enhanced daily cleaning remains in place across all four sites

Testing - Staff will continue to take part in weekly LFT testing. Although this is not a requirement of children, parents can readily access LFT testing, and we would encourage families to take part in regular testing as good practice.

Parents' Evenings and Meetings with Staff - We will operate phone calls/virtual meetings rather than face to face during the Autumn term. Please contact the school office if you would like to talk to your child's class teacher.

You can help us by keeping school informed -

- **Your child has symptoms.** Keep them off school. Book a PCR test and ring the school office to let us know. Let school know the outcome of your child's result before they return to school.
- **Your child tests positive for Covid-19.** Keep them off school. Send your PCR result to school. Let the school office know.
- **Someone in your household/a close contact has tested positive for Covid-19.** The positive person must self-isolate. You will need to book a PCR test for your child if they have been a close contact. Your child can continue to attend school unless they develop symptoms or return a positive PCR result. Ring the school office to let us know that a close contact has tested positive, but your child will be attending school. If your child develops symptoms or returns a positive PCR test, you must keep them off school.
- **NHS test and trace have advised that your child must self-isolate.** Ring the school office and let us know.
- **Mrs Robinson (attendance officer)** can be contacted at Central Upper 01670 813111 if you require any support regarding attendance.

We will continue to work closely with public health and may reintroduce additional measures to reflect changes in the local or national context if needed. As the government continues to review guidance as school's return, we will update parents.

I look forward to working with you all and can't wait to start the new school year with what we hope will be a little more of a sense of normality.

Yours sincerely

L Hall

Miss L Hall
Executive Headteacher
Bothal and Central Primary Schools