



**Bolton on Swale St Mary's CE Primary School  
Scorton, Richmond, North Yorkshire DL10 6AQ**

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Tel: 01748 818401

Headteacher: Mrs Nicola Dobson B.Ed (Hons) NPOH

Thursday 3rd September 2020

Dear Parents,

**Planning for the return to school for all pupils in September 2020 – Information for Parents**

I hope you have all enjoyed a good summer break with your children and families. We are looking forward very much to welcoming all our children back to school once again and would like to reassure you that the safety of everyone in our school community continues to be our priority.

School will reopen to all pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September**. Our **Reception new starters** will have transition visits starting on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September. They have received separate information about this.

**Following government guidance the following measures will be in place to keep everyone in our school community safe. They form part of our comprehensive school risk assessment:**

- **Handwashing** ensuring everyone cleans their hands more often than usual, including when they arrive at school, when they return from breaks, and before and after eating – this can be done with soap and running water or hand sanitiser which will be available throughout school
- **Cleaning** enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces more often
- **Hygiene** ensuring good respiratory hygiene, by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- **Class groups (bubbles)** keeping children in their class groups to minimise social contact
- **Symptoms** anyone who has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who lives with someone who is showing symptoms, must not attend school - this means if your child, or someone in your household, has symptoms you should not send them to school
- **NHS Track and Trace** anyone with symptoms must engage with the NHS Test and Trace process so that cases can be identified and action taken - this means if your child develops symptoms, you should arrange for them to get a test and you should inform school of the results of that test. All staff and pupils will have access to testing if they develop symptoms of coronavirus, and rapid action will be taken should any test come back positive to ensure that the school continues to be a safe environment. We will follow advice from our local health protection team.
- **Beginning and end of the school day** are the busiest times for children and adults meeting together so to help maintain social distance the following measures will be in place:
  - Parents and children should avoid using public transport to come to school
  - **Children can arrive at school and will be welcomed into their classrooms between 8:45am and 9am** each day with lessons starting at 9am promptly (new Reception starters have a separate timetable).

- **Class 1** – children will enter school through the first red gate of their outdoor area (follow signs)
- **Class 2** – children will enter school through the middle red gate of their outdoor area (follow signs)
- **Class 3** – children will enter school through the KS2 entrance to the hall
- **Class 4** – children will enter school through the Class 4 external fire door, turning left at the gate from the playground

**End of school day**

- **Class 1 and 2 children will finish at 3.15pm and will be handed over to their parents or carers at the entry/exit points for each class above**
- **Class 3 and 4 children will finish at 3.30pm and will be handed over to their parents or carers at the entry/exit points for each class above**

**Staggered arrival and finish times** – arrival and finish times from school have been staggered following government guidance to reduce congestion and maintain social distancing at the busiest times of the school day.

**Parents with children in both Class 1 or 2 and Class 3 or 4.** We do recognise that there will be a little waiting time between the different classes finishing. You will know from experience that children do not always exit school at precisely the same time. We ask you to be patient and understanding as we try to reduce congestion around school. We are fortunate to have lots of outdoor space where you can safely wait to collect children at different times.

**When we return to school next week Mrs Dobson and other school staff will be visible and available at the entrances to school to welcome our children and to reassure them.**

- **Limiting access to the school building for parents and visitors** To keep everyone safe parents and carers should not enter the school building. Please try not to visit the school office unless you really need to (such as forgotten packed lunch, school equipment or medication). If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to speak to a teacher please email or telephone the school office. Messages will be taken before, during and after the school day and teachers will communicate with you by phone, email or in the outside areas of school as appropriate. For the time being, we will not be inviting parents into school each Friday afternoon for our weekly Special Mentions Assembly. We will be planning other ways to share your child's learning with you. **More details on this will follow.**

**Leaving a message with the office:** [admin@bolton-on-swale.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bolton-on-swale.n-yorks.sch.uk)

**Telephone the office: 01748 818401**

- **Arrangements for break times and lunchtimes** We continue to value the importance of our children having a break from learning and enjoying time playing outside together during the school day. Each Class will continue to have a 15 minute break both morning and afternoon and an hour for lunch. **Each class will play in their own designated area of the school grounds with their own play equipment**
- **School lunches** will continue to be cooked as normal. Children may still bring packed lunches if they prefer. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (Classes 1 and 2) receive government funded universal free school meals. Please speak to Mrs Newton in the office if you think you may qualify for free school meals due to income; by applying for this you will also support school financially to further support your child's learning. We have an excellent

new cook, Danielle, who arrived after Easter and will be cooking delicious lunches following the North Yorkshire school menu. **Children will eat lunches in their own class bubbles.**

### **What should my child bring to school in September?**

Your child should wear school uniform; bring a full water bottle each day; bring a PE kit in a drawer string bag; bring a school book bag or similar **small** bag which they can put their reading book and homework in. They should not bring a pencil case; all stationery equipment will be provided.

**PE Kit** – we will aim to do as much outdoor PE as possible to maintain social distancing. Children will need outdoor PE kit: white t shirt (plain or with school logo); black/navy jogging trousers; black/navy hoodie/sweatshirt; trainers. Socially distanced indoor PE will take place in poor weather; black/navy shorts and a white t shirt are required.

**Outdoor and indoor shoes** – due to our rural setting this continues to be a necessity. Many children wear black plimsolls indoors and have school shoes, trainers or wellies (depending on the weather) for outdoors. Some choose to wear school shoes indoors and have trainers or wellies for outdoors.

The most important thing is to have different footwear for indoors and outdoors. The outdoor footwear is what children come to school in; their indoor footwear stays in school.

Children need trainers for outdoor PE and these trainers could be the same as their outdoor footwear.

When children return to school next week they will arrive in their outdoor shoes. They will have other footwear with them to put on when they get inside. This will stay in school. They will wear their outdoor footwear at break, lunchtimes and when they go home. If their outdoor footwear is trainers they can use these for outdoor PE also. Otherwise they need trainers for outdoor PE in a plastic bag inside their PE bag.

**Instrumental Lessons** – these will begin again in the week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> September, more details to follow. Children who have school violins and cellos at home should return these to school. Class 3 children will then receive a school violin or cello for their class music lessons. Risk Assessments will be in place for all Music lessons.

**Attendance** From September, the government have stated that attendance will be mandatory for all children and, therefore, all children should return to school. For parents and carers of children of compulsory school age, this means that the legal duty on you as a parent to send your child to school regularly will apply. A small number of pupils will be unable to attend in line with public health advice because they are self-isolating and have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves, or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19). If your child is unable to attend school for this reason, you should contact school and advice will be given about what support is available in terms of remote education. Shielding advice for all adults and children paused on 1st August, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission of coronavirus. This means that the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list can also return to school, as can those who have family members who are shielding.

### **Wrap Around Care before and after school**

Shelly Tait continues to provide wrap around care before and after school. This is for children in our school only. Please contact Shelly directly by email: [shellyschildminding7@gmail.com](mailto:shellyschildminding7@gmail.com) to enquire about a place. Little Learners Nursery in Scorton village also provides wrap around care before and after school. Please contact them directly to enquire about a place.

[www.littlelearnersnurserycentre.co.uk](http://www.littlelearnersnurserycentre.co.uk)

## **Before and After School Clubs**

We recognise the importance of our school clubs to enrich children's school life and experiences and we aim to continue to run these. More information will be provided when your child returns to school next week. There will be some adjustments such as keeping children in their class bubbles and managing numbers carefully. We hope to start some clubs in the week beginning Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. **More detail on these will follow.**

## **Supporting our children and families on their return to school**

We do not underestimate how difficult the recent months have been for everyone and we recognise the need to focus on pupils' emotional wellbeing as well as their return to learning. Our teachers will continue to communicate with you regularly and to meet the individual needs of your child with the same care and concern they have always done. A broad and balanced curriculum will continue to be taught and children's individual learning needs will be met. Teachers have new and exciting learning topics and activities planned for our children and are looking forward to getting started.

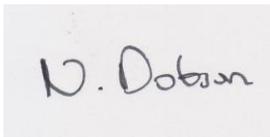
**I hope that these arrangements provide you with the information you need to support your child's return to school next week.**

**Further government information for parents and carers can be found on the link:**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak?utm\\_source=2%20September%202020%20C19&utm\\_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm\\_campaign=DfE%20C19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak?utm_source=2%20September%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19)

**If you have any unanswered questions or any queries at all, please email me directly: [headteacher@bolton-on-swale.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@bolton-on-swale.n-yorks.sch.uk).**

With my very best wishes,



**Nicola Dobson**

**Email contact: [headteacher@bolton-on-swale.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@bolton-on-swale.n-yorks.sch.uk)**