

## SHINCLIFFE C. of E. (CONTROLLED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher:  
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Friday 10th July

Dear Parents,

I hope you continue to keep well.

The Department for Education has informed schools that they believe it is now safe for all children to return to school from September. We are looking forward to welcoming all of the children back.

Below are provisional details of our plans for the full reopening of school. Please be aware that these may be subject to change at short notice. Revised and updated guidance from both the Government and Durham County Council is shared with schools regularly and this may affect our plans. I will update you as soon as I am able, including during the Summer Holiday period.

In order to reduce the risk of coronavirus spreading in the school setting, we will be implementing a number of protective measures which are detailed below. The safety of pupils, staff and families remains paramount. School will look and feel different to usual as we implement the Government's recommended measures in order to reduce the risk of the virus spreading.

### **Infection Control**

- Children will be grouped into year group class bubbles of 30 with contact avoided between groups.
- In order to minimise contact with people who are unwell, anyone with coronavirus symptoms or has someone in their house with symptoms, must not attend school.
- A regular regime of hand cleansing will be in place.
- Good respiratory hygiene will be promoted using the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Enhanced cleaning regimes will be in place.
- Contact between individuals will be minimised and social distancing will be maintained where possible.

- Within the classrooms, layouts will be changed so that all children sit in rows and face forwards. We are awaiting confirmation as to the expectations for classroom layout in the Reception class.
- Bubbles will be kept apart with staggered and separate breaks and lunchtimes and there will be no large gatherings e.g. Collective Worship.
- There will be staggered starts and departure times for children, to alleviate congestion at these times. These will not affect the overall teaching times, as break times and lunch times will be compressed.  
Arrival and departure times will be as follows:

Year Group	Arrival Time	Departure Time
Year 6 and Year 2	8:45am-8:50am	2:50pm-2:55pm
Year 5 and Year 1	8:55am-9:00am	3:00pm-3:05pm
Year 4 and Reception	9:05am-9:10am	3:10pm- 3:15pm
Year 3	9-15am- 9:20am	3:20pm-3:25pm

Parents must adhere strictly to these times. Whilst I appreciate the difficulties of parents dropping off siblings at different times, we do not have the staffing capabilities to resource dropping off outside of these times. Please note that only one adult should accompany the children to the school gate. Those dropping off or collecting children must leave the school site immediately once they have dropped off or collected children.

### **Attendance**

The Government are explicit that **attendance at school will be mandatory** from September. This means that children must attend school, unless they are complying with clinical or public health advice.

### **School Meals**

The school kitchen will be fully open from the start of the school term, with meals provided for all who require them. Children may also bring in a packed lunch if preferred.

### **School Uniform**

Our usual school uniform rules will apply from September and the Government is clear that uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal. On the days your child has PE, they should come dressed for this to avoid the need for changing clothes in school. You will be informed of these days, closer to the beginning of term.

### **Curriculum**

The curriculum will remain broad and ambitious with a full range of subjects offered. Staff as educational professionals will be using a 'diagnose and triage' model in order to identify gaps in pupil's knowledge so that these can be addressed sequentially over the course of the academic year. Contingency planning will build upon the

comprehensive on-line learning already offered, in order that education can continue remotely in the event of a second wave or further lockdowns.

The return will allow social interaction with peers and teachers, which will benefit children's wellbeing. We will provide focussed pastoral support where pupils need additional help.

### **Behaviour**

In order to implement the Government's measures, there will be very clear restrictions on movement around the school and new hygiene rules. All children will be expected to follow these rules, in order to safeguard the wellbeing of all. The Behaviour Appendix attached to this letter will explain the rules, which **must be followed**. We ask parents to reinforce these rules with your children before the September return.

### **What your child will need to bring**

- pencil case with pencil, pen, pencil sharpener, rubber and coloured pencils (Y1-Y6 only) **This will remain in school for the week.**
- Coat
- Book Bag / School Bag

Please don't send your child in to school with anything else.

### **Administration of Medicines**

If your child requires any form of medication (other than those on medical plans with inhalers/epi-pens already in school) please contact the school office to arrange hand over of medicines and to complete the documentation. We will contact parents where medication has expired and new medication is required for September.

### **Preparing your children**

Parents will, no doubt, wish to discuss the full return with their children. We suggest you make use of the wellbeing resources available via DB Primary and the School Website

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we work together towards welcoming all children back into school. The significant number of messages of support and thanks from parents over these past weeks has been heartening. Indeed, they have made a difficult task much easier. I thank the whole staff team for all they have done to date and in anticipation for all they will do to prepare for a successful full opening in September. Our school will not be the environment that your children were used to when school closed in March, but be assured that we will do all we can, in spite of the restraints, to make it a pleasant learning environment

For updates, please continue to use the dedicated Coronavirus section of the School Website: <http://www.shincliffe.durham.sch.uk/parents/coronavirus-update/>

Stay safe and stay well.

Yours sincerely

Mr Tait

# Behaviour Policy

## Shincliffe CE Primary School

### Annex A: Behaviour principles for returning to school during COVID-19

Areas schools may wish to add to their behaviour policy are:

- We expect children to arrive and leave promptly in their designated time slot and follow social distancing routines for arrival and departure
- We expect children to following school instructions on hygiene, such as handwashing and sanitising
- Children will only socialise with pupils in their 'bubble group' at school
- We expect children to move around the school as per specific instructions (for example, one-way systems, out of bounds areas, queuing)
- We expect children to follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach when sneezing/coughing, with tissues provided, children will be expected to avoid touching mouth, nose and eyes with hands
- Children will be expected to tell an adult immediately if they are experiencing symptoms of coronavirus
- Children will play in their own 'bubble group' at breaks or play times with designated areas for play
- Children will only use the toilets when instructed by school staff
- We expect children to not cough or spit at or towards any other person
- We expect parents to support pupils at home about their child's conduct in relation to remote education and reinforcing online safety
- Children will receive rewards and sanctions as outlined in the main Behaviour Policy