



8th March School opening for all pupils

We are all looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to school from Monday 8th March. We have been very busy making arrangements for this and I have some things I would like to share with you.

Our focus initially is going to be on pupil wellbeing. The children have spent a great deal of time away from each other and their normal classroom routines. Even the children who have been in school might not have been in their own classrooms with their own teachers and their usual classmates. We have built in lots of opportunities for children to play together, work on team activities with their friends and time to enjoy being outdoors. We want all pupils to enjoy being in school so the staff have planned lots of fun lessons without the pressure of assessments or tests of their learning at first.

If you or your child has any worries around returning to school, please contact your child's class teacher or myself so that we can reassure you and offer any necessary support.

Our full risk assessment is available on our school website along with this letter and another letter from Durham to parents.

Attendance

School attendance is mandatory for pupils from 8th March unless they are ill or self-isolating due to positive Covid cases within their household.

School day

The entry and exit times will continue to be staggered and will remain largely the same as they were in September but there are some slight changes. **It is extremely important that your child is on time for school. Please try not to miss your gate times.** The times are as follows:

Ladybirds Nursery – Gate opens at 8.50 a.m. and will close at 9 a.m. Pupils will leave at 3.15 p.m.

Robins Nursery – Gate opens at 8.50 a.m and will close at 9 a.m. Pupils will leave at 3.15 p.m.

Reception – Industrial Street gate opens at 8.40 a.m. and will close at 8.50 a.m. Pupils will leave at 3.05 p.m.

Year 1 – Industrial Street gate opens at 8.50 a.m. and will close at 9 a.m. Pupils will leave at 3.15p.m.

Year 2 – Gate opens at 8.50 a.m and will close at 9 a.m. Pupils will leave at 3.15 p.m.

Year 3/4 – Junior door open from 8.50 a.m and will close at 9 a.m. Pupils will leave at 3.20 p.m.

Year 5 – Junior door opens at 8.40 a.m and will close at 8.50. Pupils will leave at 3.10 p.m.

Year 6 – Door opens at 8.40 a.m and will close at 8.50 a.m. Pupils will leave at 3.10 p.m.

Social distancing will remain in place in our school yards and we respectfully ask parents to wear a face covering when on school premises.

Uniform

We will expect children to wear full school uniform. As I mentioned earlier this week, if children do not have school shoes that fit, I will allow some flexibility with shoes until the shops are open fully. However, children will be active throughout the day and **MUST** wear flat shoes that are appropriate for school. Heeled shoes and sandals are **not permitted**.

Please do not send pupils into school with any unnecessary bags or toys please. Essential items only such as reading folders and packed lunches.

PE kits

On P.E days, pupils should come to school in their PE kit. PE will be done outside whenever possible so please make sure your child is dressed appropriately. Jogging bottoms or leggings should be worn instead of shorts if the weather is cold.

The Daily Mile

We are going to start doing The Daily Mile with all of our pupils from next week. Look out for the introduction video on Classdojo. This involves a fast walk, jog or run for 15 minutes every day and will be inclusive and accessible for all pupils. Studies have shown that regular exercise not only improves physical fitness but also emotional wellbeing. Children don't need to wear their PE kit for this and it's fine for them to do it in their uniform. We are not expecting all pupils to be able to run a mile straightaway but we will expect them all to have a go at being active for those 15 minutes.

Laptops

Any families who have loaned a laptop from us should return it to the school office. Please contact the school office on 01991 3700182 to make an appointment to hand back the laptop. This is important so that we don't have lots of parents in the porch at the same time.

Rapid lateral flow testing

Members of households, childcare or support bubbles of school staff and pupils

From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

Primary school pupils are not being asked to test at this time. Please see the government website for further information about how to access lateral flow testing.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Additional information

Breakfast club and afterschool club will return to normal from Monday 8th March.

School lunches will also be as normal.

School will now be open on Friday afternoons as normal.

Public Health England has good evidence that routinely taking the temperature of pupils is not recommended as this is an unreliable method for identifying coronavirus. We will therefore no longer be carrying out temperature checks on entry for pupils.

If anyone has any questions or worries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with either your child's classteacher or myself. We are hoping that this will be a smooth and stress-free return for everyone. As always, we thank you for your continued amazing support and cooperation.

Best wishes

Mrs Dunn and staff at Roseberry.