

Information for School Opening on Monday September 6th 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome Back Renishaw!

First of all, can I say what an absolute pleasure it is to be writing to you at the start of a new academic year and especially to those who are joining our school for the first time. We hope you and your family will be happy here with our team at Renishaw Primary School. We are here to work with you as part of this amazing school community and whatever you need from us, please remember that our staff are here for you and your child.

We have received guidance from the DFE which at least for the moment states amongst other things, the following information:

- The removal of the need to have pupil/student or staff bubbles
- Staff, pupils/students and visitors to the school are no longer required to wear face coverings*
- The removal of restrictions regarding site visitors and deliveries
- The removal of restrictions regarding school trips and activities
- There is still a strong emphasis on hand hygiene for both pupils/students and staff, along with visitors to the site.
- Suitable levels of ventilation must be maintained, allowing sufficient air flow around the building to reduce build-up of stagnant air.
- Additional cleaning will continue to take place throughout school during the lunch period.
- Any staff member or pupil/student coming into school with COVID symptoms or starting with symptoms whilst in school must be sent straight home and they should follow the NHS/PHE advice regarding testing.
- Please try to avoid congregating in large groups on the playground.
- Please continue TO wear face coverings in the school site if it makes you feel comfortable.

We ask that parents to still wear a mask in and around the school site where possible and especially if you need to have a meeting with staff in a closed indoor environment.

The staff, governors and I are delighted that we can welcome everyone back to school on Monday 6th September. Obviously, due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, school will be operating slightly differently when we all return. The situation and the criteria needed to be met in our risk assessment continues to change, even as late as today. We will of course endeavour to keep you as informed as possible so that everyone can make/adjust their plans accordingly.

The new guidance says that schools must have plans in place for any return to schools needing 'Bubbles'. We have looked at our operating procedures and the lessons learned from the last 18 months and should there need to be a return to this system we would operate 4 bubbles:

Bubble 1 – Nursery / Reception

Bubble 2 – Year 1 / Year 2

Bubble 3 – Year 3 / Year 4

Bubble 4 – Year 5 / Year 6

Arrival and collection

As a school, we are returning to our usual start and finish times of **8.40am until 3.15pm** (8.30am) Nursery). There is the opportunity to drop your child off at our Breakfast Club and we are also looking at running a general After School Children's Club which will run daily between 3.15pm until 4.15pm. We will also be restarting our After School Sports Clubs with more details of these will follow.

Entrance and exit gates will open and close at the following times.

Start of School Open until 8.50am

End of School - Open from 3.05pm

We do ask that parents do not congregate on school grounds, including the main gates. We have social distancing markings, within the school grounds to help you maintain social distancing between families. If we have not spoken with yourselves and late arrival does become a daily occurrence this will then be recorded as a late mark in the registers as per the attendance guidance.

To help reduce congestion on our pathway and school grounds, we ask that only **one** adult comes onto site with their child / children where possible.

At drop off, the children will be met by a parent or carer. Please can we reiterate, that if you wish to have a chat with a member of staff, please phone the office and arrange a mutual convenient time to do this via telephone or send the appropriate member of staff a message on Class Dojo / Tapestry. In the meantime, please email school as normal and it will be forwarded accordingly.

At collection times, we will bring the children to the gate/door and dismiss them in the manner they are used to. I appreciate that this might take a little longer than usual, but again it is designed with safety in mind.

The School Day – Playtime and Lunchtime

In line with DfE guidance and DCC risk assessment, children will be allowed to play in two class groups which match our 'Bubble Plans'. This will mean that the daily routine will be slightly amended, timings for these sessions will remain the same; 15 minutes for playtime and 1 hour for lunch.

What does my child need to bring...including P.E kits?

The feedback that we have received from you indicates that not having to bring PE bags to school was certainly one positive over the last year so we will be continuing this again this year. We are also still limiting the amount of sharing of resources between home and school. Therefore, your child will need to bring daily;

- A named water bottle containing fresh water, no juice please.
- A named coat and a named bag containing a change of clothes **for those children who require this.**
- We ask children not to bring in any personal possessions including toys
- We will provide everything they need in class including all stationery so please ensure your child does not bring in stationery or toys.

No Rucksacks / Large Bags

Your child will still have a designated day for P.E. which we will share with you next week.

Please note that the children will be doing P.E the first week back and your child will be asked to come to school dressed in their kit and joggers on their allocated day rather than bringing it to school. Again, this will reduce unnecessary bags around school as well as a reduction in PE changing time. Please remember that PE is a statutory part of the curriculum.

Whilst we fully support children coming in school hooded tops, we kindly ask parents to ensure that **ALL CLOTHES WORN IN SCHOOL ARE IN LINE WITH OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM AS OUTLINED BELOW**

NO BRANDED CLOTHING - ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO JUMPERS / HOODIES.

What does my child need to wear?

- Our school uniform policy will be in effect from September.
- Black/Grey Trousers / skirt / pinafore dress
- Blue and white checked summer dress / Grey /Black shorts
- White / blue polo shirt/ shirt / blouse
- Royal blue jumper/cardigan with school logo if possible
- Black shoes
- Grey, navy, black or white tights/socks

P.E Kit

Jogging bottoms to wear on P.E day. As well as PE Hoodie (Optional)

- Black/Navy shorts
- White T. shirt
- Trainers

NO FOOTBALL KITS / BRANDED HOODIES / JUMPERS

We recognise that COVID-19 will have affected our families in very different ways. Any parents having difficulty in obtaining or providing their child with a school uniform, please contact the school office.

Hygiene/Cleaning and Classroom organisation

Hygiene and cleanliness are paramount to the safety of everyone within our setting and this is something that we take seriously. Our staff are working tirelessly behind the scenes ensuring the highest cleaning standards are maintained. To enhance this good practice further, we will be ensuring that everyone is regularly washing their hands well and will provide hand sanitiser too. As well as the extra cleaning at lunchtime, we will be promoting "Catch it, Bin it, Kill it" and coughing into the elbow. We do ask for your support at home by encouraging your child to maintain good hygiene by washing their hands before leaving the house.

The classrooms will look slightly different with minimal resources left out and surplus chairs and furniture removed in order to facilitate cleaning. As much as possible, desks have been organised to be forward facing and furniture has been arranged to promote social distancing. However, with such young children we all recognise that social distancing is very hard to maintain.

Curriculum

Wellbeing is always at the centre of what we do. However, due to the unprecedented times we find ourselves living in, a greater emphasis will be centred around mental health and well-being. There will initially be a strong emphasis on supporting the children's transition back into school, building relationships and with becoming familiar with being around children from other year groups as well as their new daily routine. We will be responding to the individual needs of the children, as each child/family will have had different experiences.

Attendance

Attendance will be mandatory and will follow the usual reporting and monitoring procedures. It has never been so important as it is now that we work together to ensure that all children are in regular attendance.

The school office and communication

If you need to contact the school, we urge parents, wherever possible, to communicate via telephone, email and Class Dojo/Tapestry. The main office is contactable via phone or email info@renishaw.derbyshire.sch.uk.

We will be making any forms (medicine, leave of absence etc.) available online via the website.

In the event of an emergency, which requires you to visit the office in person, we request that everyone follows the 2 metre distance rules. There will be markers on the floor to indicate where to stand. This is to protect yourselves as well as our staff. However, please do not visit the office during the drop off and collection times as EYFS parents will be using this space to exit the building.

Covid-19 Symptoms in School

If your child develops any potential Covid-19 symptoms in school, we will telephone parents for immediate collection, and whilst they wait for you, they will be kept isolated from the other children. After collecting them from school, you will be required to follow Government Guidance and have them tested for Covid19 and report the result back to NHS Test and Trace and school as soon as possible. **NHS TEST and TRACE WILL NOTIFY PARENTS WHO NEEDS TO ISOLATE FROM NOW ON.**

****Please ensure any emergency contact details we need are up to date. An electronic form will be sent out to you during the first week back. ** please return to info@renishaw.derbyshire.sch.uk**

Consent / Permissions

As a school we will hopefully be returning to educational trips, visits, sporting events, and sharing much of our work in school with parents and the wider community. At the start of the year, we will be asking parents for their consents with many of these things and will be sending a list of the permissions required. We will be asking parents to contact the school by returning the consent forms with your responses **within the first week back if possible** for things like photos, social media, website etc. We really would appreciate your cooperation and communications in this matter.

PARENTS ARE ASKED TO INFORM SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE REGARDING ANY ALLERGIES THAT YOUR CHILD MAY HAVE, SO THAT THE CORRECT STEPS CAN BE PUT IN PLACE ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS.

Breakfast Club / After School Club

Breakfast Club provision is available as follows and can be booked by contacting Kym.Halliday@renishaw.derbyshire.sch.uk. The sessions will initially take place in the dining room and will be run by Mrs Halliday and Mrs Spetch.

Monday to Friday 7.30am – 8.30am



7.30am – 8.30am - £3.00 (Includes Breakfast)

8.00am – 8.30am - £1.50 (not including breakfast)

Due to restrictions with staff to pupil ratios we cannot accept children in nursery at this time.

We are also planning to run an after-school club for children in all year groups from Reception to Year 6. We will keep you updated on the arrangements for this as we move forward. Again, we plan for these to take place the school dining hall.

Returning to School

We hope that this letter gives you some reassurance about the steps we are taking to maximise both the safety of your children and the whole school community and that it also gives you are able to talk to your children about how things will work and what will be different. Whilst we adapt to the changes of our 'new normal', rest assured that our school's dedication, passion and love for your children has not changed, along with our efforts and determination to inspire and ignite their learning, and build their self- esteem, so that they can reach their full potential!

As we always say here at Renishaw. Stay safe, stay strong and stick together.

We're All Renishaw Aren't We?

Kind regards.

Simon Fuller

Headteacher
Renishaw Primary School
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