

CRESWELL C.E. INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you today about the children returning to school in September and our plans and procedures for the return of all pupils to our site.

Children and parents that have been with us during June and July will already know the measures we have put in place to minimise risks. The children have quickly re-established routines and have had happy smiling faces in their bubble groups. We will maintain some of these steps as well as introducing some new ones allowing for the increase of pupil numbers in September. I know that some of you may feel a little apprehensive about the prospect of returning to school and hope the following information is useful to you.

Full Opening of Schools – September 2020

It is the government's plan that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term (September 3rd for Creswell C of E Infant and Nursery children).

It is true that Covid-19 remains however, the balance of risk is overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school. Following the simple steps outlined below will help all of us stay safe and minimise any risks.

School Start and Finish Times

To minimise risk we need to reduce "pinch points" (essentially control the number of people who need to gather in communal areas). All cluster schools have acknowledged that the start and finish of the school day are our main concerns and therefore, each class (bubble) will be allocated a start and finish time and a specific entrance and exit. We will continue to restrict access to the classroom and main school buildings. There will be a strict policy of no parents/carers allowed in the building at drop off and collection times. There will, however, be support allowed for our new Nursery starters (those who have not been to our Nursery before).

I have also sent you a Creswell Infant School Site Map, which details the entrances and exits we are using and the location of each classroom. We will be operating a one way system around the grounds. Each key stage will have a separate exit. If you have more than one child in our school then please use the exit linked to the child you drop off last and follow the one way system.

Class or Group	Teacher	Entrance/Exit Colour coded on the map	Start Time	Finish Time
Morning Nursery	Mrs Lievesley, Mrs. Alder, Mrs. Pattison, Mrs. Kilcommons, Mrs. Bell	Pale Blue Nursery/ Earlybird Door	8:30am	11:30pm
Afternoon Nursery	Mrs Lievesley, Mrs. Alder, Mrs. Pattison, Mrs. Kilcommons, Mrs. Bell	Pale Blue Nursery/ Earlybird Door	12:30pm	3:30pm
Butterflies	Mrs. Nelson	Pink	9:00am	1:10pm
Snails	Mrs. Jackson	Pink	9:00am	1:10pm
Dragonflies	Mrs. Kent	Brown	9:00am	1:10pm
Grasshoppers	Miss Woods	Brown	9:00am	1:10pm
Yellow	Mrs. Hamilton	Yellow	8:40am	3:00pm
Purple	Mrs. Cardwell	Purple	8:40am	3:00pm
Orange	Mrs. Ford / Mrs. Preece	Orange	8:40am	3:00pm
Blue	Mrs. Lancashire	Blue	8:40am	3:00pm

Please ensure your child is at the appropriate entrance for their start time; the class teacher will meet them at the allotted time and escort them to their classroom. You can, of course wait with your child until they are collected but remain 2m away from other families. The same system will operate at the end of the school day. We appreciate for some families this will clash with the Junior School start times and finish times. While we will be flexible to 5 or 10 minutes, please stick as closely to the times as possible as we do not have the staffing to remain on the doors beyond this. No cars, except those with a blue badge, allowed as the car park will be used by pedestrians.

Late after Register

We hope that on the rare occasion pupils are late you will work with us to ensure a COVID secure site. Children will not be allowed to enter through the Main Reception area and the staff in the office will not be able to receive your child. Please phone ahead so we can allocate a member of staff from your child's bubble to receive them through their classroom door.

Early collection

We ask that you only collect your child early for appointments. Again, it means we will have to allocate a member of staff to this, so we need to know in advance as it removes staffing from the learning environment.

Protective Measures

We have been advised, by the Department for Education to adopt protective measures, in order to keep our children and staff safe. I have detailed the key points below:

- No one should enter the school if they are displaying any symptoms of Coronavirus
- Your child should be accompanied to school by only one parent or carer
- Children will be allocated a time for drop off and collection, please help us to protect everyone by adhering to these times
- Please do not gather at school entrances and exits (social distancing must be respected)
- All children will be taught in the same classes
- Year groups will share playtimes but will have designated zones
- All adults and children will be encouraged to: frequently wash their hands, not to touch their mouth, eyes and nose and use a tissue to cough or sneeze and use bins for tissue waste
- Help will be available for children who have difficulty cleaning hands independently
- All spaces will be well ventilated
- Every child will have their own stationery supplied by school
- Classroom based resources (such as books and games) will be shared only within that class
- Resources such as sports and science equipment which will be shared between classes will be cleaned frequently and meticulously or rotated to allow them to be left unused and out of reach for 72 hours
- Breaks will be staggered to ensure routes throughout the school have a limited number of children using them
- Lunch breaks will also be staggered
- Outside spaces will be used as frequently as possible
- Frequently touched surfaces, equipment, door handles and toilets will be cleaned thoroughly each day
- The number of external visitors will be restricted. If you need to speak to us please contact our school office and we will call you back as quickly as possible.
- If a child or staff member within a class develops symptoms compatible with Coronavirus, the individual will be sent home and advised to be tested. Where a child or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class will self-isolate for 14 days.

In order to clarify everyone's responsibilities, during these unprecedented times, my team has created a home/school agreement (specifically referencing the Coronavirus pandemic), this agreement has been sent together with this letter and our site map.

Breaktimes and Lunchtimes

Breaktimes will be staggered. Lunchtimes will also be rotated throughout the school and hot lunches will be served in takeaway containers in classrooms. If you have opted for your child to have sandwiches made at home, please ensure they are sent in a plastic bag so unfinished food and rubbish can be disposed of at school.

Breakfast and After School Clubs

Schools have been asked to think carefully about how we can make this provision work, while adhering to the wider protective measures (keeping all children within their class bubbles).

Following discussions with Creswell Junior School, we feel that we would be unable to maintain class bubbles within our breakfast club and therefore this provision will not be available during the first term (September to October).

Once we have evaluated our protective measures over the first term, we may feel we can operate safely, and within government guidance, and if this is the case, we could offer this provision after October half term.

If your working day is set, and you are unable to make alternative arrangements for childcare before school, please contact me and I may be able to offer advice and support.

Uniform

We will expect all school children (Nursery optional) to attend in school uniform. Please see website for details. If items like coats and shoes could have fastenings the children can do themselves then it would help staff maintain social distancing.

Children **will not** need a P.E. kit in the first half term. Please just provide a pair of trainers in a bag that can be left on their coat peg. P.E. will be delivered outside weather permitting.

Children will be allowed to take books home in their book bags. No other items should be shared between home and school.

No lunch boxes or toys should be brought to school. Also, no scooters or bikes.

Attendance – All Pupils Must Attend School

School attendance will be mandatory in the autumn (September 3rd) and the usual rules on attendance will apply.

While I know, from reading messages from children and parents, that most of our community are looking forward to returning to normality and re-establishing routines, I appreciate that some of you may have concerns and that some of our children could be reluctant or anxious about coming back to school. I would like to reassure you that we are currently planning programs and strategies to help the whole community.

I appreciate there is a great deal of information contained within this letter and, as always, if you require any clarification, or have any questions about any aspect of school life, please do not hesitate to contact school through a dojo message, by phone or email.

Kind regards,

Amanda Dodd
Headteacher