

FULWELL JUNIOR SCHOOL

Sea Road
Fulwell
Sunderland
SR6 9EE

Tel : 0191 549 3333

Web: www.fulwelljunior.co.uk

E-Mail : Fulwell.junior@schools.sunderland.gov.uk

Head Teacher : Mr Peter Speck

Chair of Governors : Mr Michael Hartnack



Respect Aspire Achieve – Be the best that you can be

25th March 2021

Dear Parents,

I'd like to start by thanking you for your patience and understanding these last few weeks as we have faced the considerable challenge of initiating full school re-opening whilst adhering to stringent Covid-safe guidelines. Overall the return to full opening has been a great success and everyone associated with FJS; parents, children, teachers and Governors alike, can share the credit. Together, we have managed to reunite our children with their friends, resume whole class teaching and keep any new infections at bay. The school has its lively buzz back! Let's hope we never have to direct learning remotely again.

Looking forwards to the summer term, some restrictions must remain in place. These include continuing with staggered starts, front-facing seats in classrooms, class-based assemblies and increased hygiene. Our biggest challenge throughout this transition period has been managing staff movement across classes and we acknowledge the frustrations closing early on a Friday afternoon has caused.

However, whilst now is not the time for complacency, we feel the time is right, in line with the national picture, to start to relax some of these restrictions and move even closer back to normal.

PPA

As from next term, we're pleased to say that PPA cover will be delivered with minimal teacher movement across classes, thus preventing the need for the early Friday closing. Please be mindful that the staggered end times from 3.00pm will still be in place but we are sure parents will welcome a return to a full Friday curriculum. Please also note the minor adjustment to the PE timetable; children should come to school in their PE kit on these days:

Year 3 : Tuesday

Year 4 : Wednesday

Year 5 : Thursday

Year 6 : Friday

Continued.../



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Early Bird Club

The provision that runs from 7.45am to the start of registration is now at an end. Some parents have asked whether we will be reintroducing the external services of 'I Am Sports' (Matty Johnstone) but until we can fully remove the internal restrictions around social distancing, this won't be possible. We will of course keep all our options under review.

Provision from 8.30am: Some of our children arrive at school from 8.30am due to the staggered start times for siblings in other year groups etc. Mrs Anderson normally greets these children at main reception to sign them in and they are then sent to their respective year group zones until registration. *From Monday 12th April, this practice will be changing so please note the new arrangement:*

- Children should arrive at **8.30am to Gate 3** – that is the first gate at the top of Chapman Street;
- Mr Hughes will supervise children in *outdoor activity* until such time as they need to join their class; this means they will not actually enter the school building until the rest of their class do. As with the standard handover arrangements, please ensure you/your child make their presence known to Mr Hughes so we can safely account for them.

Other information

Parking

Residents of Dorking Street have asked us to issue a plea to those parents who regularly park here during the school run to find a more suitable alternative. Through inconsiderate parking, cars have apparently caused significant damage to the grassed verges lining the street.

Break-time Snacks

A reminder that only healthy snacks are permissible at break time. Crisps, sweets and chocolate are forbidden and we are trying to motivate our children towards healthier options. For clarity, we accept a healthy snack as being any of the following:

- A piece of natural fruit – whole or peeled; apple/banana/tangerine etc.
- A punnet or packet of natural fruit (such as apple slices/grape pot etc.)
- Carrot batons or similar

Please avoid cereal bars or anything with nut content; we have several children with acute food intolerances and we need to safeguard against children innocently sharing snacks with each other that could cause an adverse reaction in another child.

Continued...../



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Hand Hygiene:

We appreciate children are washing and sanitising their hands on a far more regular basis now than they ever did, and some parents have indicated their children having aggravated skin as a result. The hygiene supplies we use in school are clinically approved from educational suppliers so whilst we won't be changing the products we are currently using, we are prepared to relax our internal procedures a little to support. Any child who is experiencing soreness can bring a small tube of moisturising lotion to school to keep in their desk tray and apply it to their hands as necessary.

Lateral Flow Testing:

We actively encourage our families to engage with the national agenda around lateral flow testing as a means of monitoring possible exposure to Covid-19 in the community. Testing kits are available free of charge from designated sites in the City; the NEWS page of the school website provides more information on how to access this service.

Assessment

We have changed the way we assess the children in the core areas of reading, writing and arithmetic to give a more accurate picture of where each child is on a term by term basis. Previously, all children sat end of year tests, no matter what term we were in, and scores were adjusted accordingly. The new materials we are using only assess the curriculum that has been taught that term, therefore giving a much more accurate picture of overall achievement. Our aim is to provide you with an overview of your child's progress each term. You will receive the first report in a few weeks' time.

All that remains is to wish you a peaceful Easter. The children have earned a well-deserved break from the rigours of schoolwork and I hope they are able to recharge their batteries for the summer term. It's been an extraordinary year, but hopefully the worst is behind us now and we can begin to look forward to better times ahead.

Best Wishes,



Mr Speck

Head Teacher



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School

