



Tweeddale Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs Terrie Jerrom

Wednesday 26th August 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

As the 2019/20 academic year finally came to an end, there was a sadness about all the opportunities missed. But we need to think about the positive way the Tweeddale family of staff, parents and children worked together to create fantastic learning opportunities for our children. We have had many supportive emails from parents praising our efforts, which was a great boost to us, as we provided online learning for the first time on such a large scale.

Looking forward to September, the government has stated that there is an expectation that all children will attend school. We have planned for the safe return of all children. Whilst not everything will be able to return to “normal”, we will endeavour to provide a safe learning environment within class bubbles.

First day back - Friday 4th September

Children will return to school on Friday 4th September at the times listed below according to the house they are in. Please deliver your child to their classroom entrance as you have for this year. Your child will spend the day with their present class and teacher. Their new teacher will visit and introduce themselves during the afternoon. We have arranged for the class photographs to be taken in the morning.

Class/ Bubbles

The children will be in class bubbles of 30. They will remain with the children in their own bubble throughout the day. Reception children will be in a year group bubble of 60 to enable freeflow outside to take place.

Start and Finish Times

Children will be starting and finishing school at staggered times to reduce congestion in Tweeddale Road and at the school gates. This will enable 400 pupils to access the school as safely as possible. This will be organised by the school houses as siblings are in the same house. You will be able to drop off and collect your children at the same time. Please arrive and leave promptly. Children will use their classroom doors and Y5 and Y6 will line up outside their entrance doors. Members of SLT will be available to guide you.

House	Start	Finish
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Air	08:40	14:50
Earth	08:50	15:00
Fire	09:00	15:10
Water	09:10	15:20

Uniform

Children will be expected to wear full school uniforms, including black school shoes, no trainers. White, grey or black socks or tights (no frills/tassles). Hair bands are to be red, grey or black only. There is not an expectation for uniforms to be washed every evening.

PE kit

The children will be able to wear their PE kit to school on the days they have PE. This is to remove the need for changing while we are maintaining social distancing within bubbles. The PE kit is their house t-shirt, black shorts or skorts, black tracksuit bottoms and white, grey or black socks. Dark coloured trainers can be worn, but children will need plimsoles to change into to use in the gym.

What are lessons going to look like?

There is no requirement for primary age children to social distance within their own bubble. Therefore, children will be sat at desks together. However, to minimise the risk of transmission all desks will be facing forwards in lines and they will keep the same seat. Group activities will be kept to a minimum. PE will take place as normal within bubbles.

What will the curriculum be?

Initially, the focus will be on ensuring a smooth transition back into formal learning from remote learning. There will be a large focus on PSHE and mental health/wellbeing whilst also on assessing gaps in knowledge and filling these. There will be a gradual transition over the first half term towards a more standard curriculum thereafter.

Reading

Reading will still be a main focus of the school. As such, reading books will still be given out on a weekly basis. However, in order to minimise risk, the returning book will be cleaned and then placed out of commission for one week, whereafter it will be returned to the class reading box.

Lunch

As with start and finish times, lunch timings will be staggered. Hot school dinners will be available and will be served in the hall. Children will be sitting in their bubbles. Children in years 3 to 5 with packed lunches will eat in their classrooms in their designated seat. Weather permitting, packed lunches may eat outside in their bubbles.

Breakfast Club

We will be running a breakfast club with a limited number of places from Monday 7th September. Only children who have booked will be accepted. The cost will remain the same.

Children will be expected to remain with siblings or in year group bubbles whilst in breakfast club. The booking form is available on our website.

Late Club

Unfortunately, we will not be able to run Late Club in September as we follow the social distancing rules and keep children in bubbles. If Guidelines change, we will start Late Club as soon as we can.

Social distancing

During break times children will be expected to play with others in their own bubble. It is important that children do not play with children from different bubbles in the playground before and after school. Breaktimes will be staggered. A new playground for Y1 has been established at the front of the school.

If you would like to speak to a member of staff, please contact the school in the first instance and a telephone conversation will be arranged. If there is a need for a face to face meeting, this will be organised in school, however you will be required to maintain social distancing, sanitise your hands and wear a face covering.

General hygiene

Children will be expected to wash or sanitise their hands when they come into school and regularly throughout the day. Children will be encouraged to follow the "catch it, bin it, kill it" rule. They will have their own pencils and pens to use.

Risk assessment

The updated risk assessment is available on our website.

Cleaning

Every evening a thorough clean of the school will take place. During the school day an area will be cleaned if an incident occurs which requires it e.g. a child sneezing on a table. A deep clean will occur every weekend.

We look forward to seeing all the children back in September, playing in our fantastic newly refurbished playgrounds. We hope you are all having a fantastic summer break. Keep Safe.

Terrie Jerrom
Headteacher

Andy Powell
Deputy Headteacher