

Hemblington Primary School

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Thursday 12th November 2020

Re: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Reopening for Year 1 and Year 2 pupils on Monday 16th November

Reopening for Reception, Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils on Thursday 19th November

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to inform you that we are pleased to announce that we will be reopening the school on Monday 16th November for our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. All other year groups will return on Thursday 19th November.

We understand that the return to school is vital for your child's education and wellbeing; therefore, we have been working hard to ensure that all pupils, who do not need to self-isolate, can return to school safely as soon as possible.

When the school will reopen: The school will reopen for Year 1 and Year 2 pupils ONLY on Monday 16th November. Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils will be able to return on Thursday 19th November as previously stated.

Staffing: On Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th, Year 1 pupils will be taught by Mrs Story and supported by Mrs Davies, until Mrs Goodson is able to return to school. Mrs Story knows Hemblington Primary School well and was covering our Year 3 class at the start of this academic year whilst Mr Shingles was on paternity leave. Year 2 pupils will be taught by Mrs Panting until Mrs Brownsey is able to return on Thursday. Our MSAs for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will be Mrs Sayer, Mrs Parrott, Mrs Gant and Mrs Barret.

Mrs Sally Bailey, an experienced Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead from Dussindale Primary, will be on site from Monday 16th until I am able to return on Thursday 19th November. She has experience of teaching across the whole primary phase and in being a SENCO. I am working closely with Dussindale Primary who are offering the school support until I am able to return. From Thursday 19th all staff and pupils will be back in school as normal.

Classrooms: The Year 1 classroom is currently out of use as the floor is being repaired and thus Year 1 will be taught in the Year 3 class and ITC suite for Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th. This classroom will then be deep cleaned and they will return to their usual Swan class on Thursday. From Thursday 19th all classrooms will resume as normal.

Drop Off and Pick Up: Please drop off and pick up Year 1 and 2 pupils at the normal times and at the normal entry and exit points on Monday 16th. There will be a member of staff to support and greet pupils as they arrive.

Lunches: Lunches and morning snacks will be provided as usual by our catering staff and Harrisons.

Infection control and social distancing measures

It is important that we continue to maintain proportionate infection control and social distancing measures when we welcome back our pupils and staff. To ensure everyone's safety, we will be enforcing the following, alongside our existing measures, as part of our reviewed risk assessment:

- All parents and visitors will be required to wear masks once they enter the school site, which includes the car park and playground areas and maintain a 2 metre distance from other parents and staff.
- Robust hand and respiratory hygiene practises will continue to be enforced.
- Enhanced cleaning will be undertaken as necessary, including cleaning any frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.
- The NHS 'Test and Trace' system will be actively used and followed.
- Pupils will be asked to remain at least two metres away from members of staff, where practicable.
- A review is being completed of lunch and play times and staggered break times and review of zones is being carried out.

The school is being supported by the Yare Education Trust and Governors to ensure that we are able to open again swiftly. The safety and wellbeing of pupils is paramount and I would like to reassure you that there has been comprehensive planning and preparation to enable us to reopen safely.

I would like to thank you for your continued hard work and co-operation during this time. We are committed to supporting you and your child as they transition back into school following our recent school closure. Should you have any queries or concerns about your child returning, please contact the school office and we will be happy to discuss these with you.

We hope you and your family are safe and well and are looking forward to welcoming you back into school.

Yours sincerely,

Kendra Collier
Headteacher