



Aberford Church of England Primary School

School Lane, Aberford, Leeds, LS25 3BU

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Headteacher - Nicola Crossley



Dear parents and carers,

School reopening - Tuesday 8th September

As you will already be aware, the guidance from the DfE is that schools will reopen fully in September and our first day back for all pupils will be **Tuesday 8th September**. We are very much looking forward to welcoming back all our pupils and starting to return to our usual school routines.

The government has given us detailed guidance that sets out the safety measures we need to put in place in order to return to some sense of normality whilst still reducing the risks associated with the spread of Covid 19. We have put together an initial reopening plan which sets out the measures that we will be putting into place but please be aware that this may be updated throughout August, if we receive more guidance. We will keep you updated with this as we progress.

Organisation of groups:

Each class will, once again, be taught by their own class teacher in their own classroom and will resume following a broad and balanced curriculum. Teachers will informally assess children during lessons to help them plan accordingly for any gaps in learning and to get all our pupils back on track as quickly as possible. We may formally assess children against the prior year groups' end of year expectation once they are fully settled back in around October, so that we can give you a better picture of where they are working at.

Our school will be operating within a two bubble system: class 1 and class 2 as one bubble and class 3 and class 4 as the second bubble. These two bubbles will not mix in school and we have planned routines to ensure they are kept separate throughout the school day. On the whole, each class will be kept separate and operate as four very separate bubbles; however, there are certain times through the day that require the bubbles to be larger than one class, e.g. breaktimes and lunchtimes. This is due to the space available in our school setting and still falls within the government guidelines.

Drop off and Collection:

We will continue to operate a staggered start and end to the day to reduce any unnecessary contact and maintain social distancing. It is important that you do not arrive any earlier than your slot and that you are prompt within your allocated times to ensure a swift start to the day for all children. Please be advised that gathering at the school gates or coming onto the school grounds without an appointment is

still not allowed under the guidance. New starters in Reception will receive separate information about drop offs for the first week back.

At present, parents are still not allowed to come into the school playground and we would like to suggest that we continue to operate the one way system, entering up school lane and exiting via the ginnel on to Main Street. This has worked very successfully during our partial opening and has ensured an efficient start and end to each day.

School staff will, once again, greet the children at the gate and welcome them into the school yard. At the end of the day, they will bring their class to the gate to meet parents. We request that you wait on the school drive - at a two metre distance - and we will send the children out to you on the basis of the 'queue' of parents.

Morning drop off:

8:40 - 8:50 Class 3 and Class 4

8:50 - 9:00 Class 1 and Class 2 (first week back, new starters in class 1 have later start)

Afternoon pick up:

3:00 - 3:15 Class 1 and Class 2

3:15 - 3:30 Class 3 and Class 4

Please could we request that families with children in both key stage 1 and key stage 2 pick up the children together at the 3:15 - 3:30 slot and drop them off together in either morning slot. Please contact the class teacher if you have problems with the time given; we are flexible and we will try to work around you wherever possible.

Lunches

We will be operating a rota system in school to ensure bubbles do not cross in the lunch hall or on the playground and may adjust times as necessary. This will hopefully allow us to return to hot meals as soon as possible. Grab bags will remain in place as school dinners for the first two weeks back to allow us to assess the lunchtime routines and adapt our plans as appropriate.

Children can bring packed lunches in their usual lunch containers and must bring in a water bottle every day.

Uniform

Children will be required to wear full school uniform (please see uniform information on our website) and pupils will need to bring PE kit on their allocated day.

PE Days

Monday	Class 3
Tuesday	Class 1 and Class 2
Thursday	Class 1 and Class 2
Friday	Class 4

Health and Safety

We will continue with enhanced cleaning protocols in school and the children will continue with regular hand washing, including immediate hand washing on entry to school each morning.

Attendance

In March when the coronavirus outbreak was increasing, the government made it clear that no parent would be penalised or sanctioned for their child's non-attendance at school.

Now the circumstances have changed and it is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development. School attendance will therefore be mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

Suspected and confirmed cases

It is important that if your child is ill, they do not come to school. School may also need to send children home who display symptoms and will follow guidance in all cases. The government guidance here is thorough and school will follow it strictly.

DfE guidance states that:

"Ensuring that pupils, staff and other adults do not come into the school if they have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or have tested positive in the last 7 days, and ensuring anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home, are essential actions to reduce the risk in schools and further drive down transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). All schools must follow this process and ensure all staff are aware of it.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection', which sets out that they must self-isolate for at least 7 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms."

I appreciate that this is a lot of information and I thank you for your continued support and understanding through this time. I look forward to being able to meet you all and the rest of our pupils in September and am excited about moving forward as a whole school community in the next academic year.

I wish you all a lovely summer,

Mrs Crossley