



Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September

Dear Families.

It is with absolute delight that I write my first Newsletter, welcoming you back to a new school term. For as long as I can remember, I have always been a complete optimist and it is only with excitement and positivity that I officially start my journey at Birdsedge with you this week. Of course, we are in a time that may be unsettling and still quite unknown for many but I completely believe we can work together to make it the best for everyone. Our priority this month is settling children back into school life, building good routines for safety and making sure every pupil is happy and well, ready to push forward in their learning this year. As you can understand, at present we are keeping visitors to school to an absolute minimum, however that does not mean that I don't want to hear from you, listen to families and start building up those ever so important relationships. Please do not hesitate to contact me at school should there be anything you wish to discuss. We will always find a way to work together, even if that sometimes might mean virtually! Sending you all my best wishes and positive thoughts for what can be a truly brilliant new beginning for us all. Mrs Waddington

### **Covid 19 Information**

Hopefully you will have seen through my previous letters what systems we have in place for minimising risk to all and making school as safe as possible. Another thing that it is imperative we work together on, is being super vigilant to any signs or symptoms of Covid 19. Remember these are:

1. New, continuous cough
2. High Temperature
3. Loss of, or change in, usual sense of smell and taste

Should a child develop any of the above in school the following will be adhered to.

- Isolation of the child, whilst still maintaining their care and wellbeing as our biggest priority.
- Parents contacted to collect child and testing to be arranged.
- Self-isolation in place for this child for 10 days, if there is positive test result.

In the event of an individual in school displaying symptoms or a positive case, we will ensure communication with all families is a priority of any actions needed, whilst always maintaining confidentiality. We will also work with Kirklees Council and Public Health throughout and follow advice moving forward.

### **Staffing Updates**

During the summer Mrs Pepper secured a new role in another school, which she begins this week. Our wonderful Mrs Lavy will be covering the office full time during our recruitment process, which I will keep you updated on.

Mrs Orwin, our school cook has also secured a new position in another kirklees school during the summer, that she begins this week. As a Trust, the decision has been made, moving forward, for our kitchen to be based offsite. This will impact positively on our challenging school budget, whilst maintaining consistency in the school meals provided. School meals for children will still be ordered in the same way at school but cooked at Scissett Middle school and transported and served safely in mobile ovens at school in the usual way.

### **Communication**

Remember, our facebook page, twitter page and school website is updated regularly to keep you informed and involved in what is happening in school. Be sure to follow them to stay updated ☺

<https://www.facebook.com/BirdsedgeFirstSchool>

<https://twitter.com/birdsedgefirst>

<https://birdsedgefirst.org>

### **And finally...**

Thank you for the warm and supportive welcome I have already received. Already, I feel like I am getting to know some families before we have even opened our doors. That is completely down to the engagement through the facebook page or over email and phone. I hugely appreciate the effort so many of you have gone to, to keep communication strong and hope that we can continue to work together in this way, despite the barriers current situations may cause.

