



Executive Headteacher Mrs C Adams
Head of School Mr M Cunniffe
northbrookpa.org

Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear parents,

Looking Forward to the New Academic Year 2021-22

The Northbrook Primary Academy staff have been working hard during the INSET days this week to prepare for the children's return on Monday. We are all looking forward to having everyone back at school and are excited for the new academic year ahead. To ensure that we have a smooth start we wanted to highlight a few important points and give you some key information.

School Uniform

We launched our new school uniform to you last year and we can't wait to see how smart our children will look with the brand-new design. We have been in regular communication with our suppliers, Monkhouse, and understand that like many other companies they have experienced supply chain issues. They have reassured us that whilst these challenges are causing delays in their service, it is only affecting a small percentage of parents. If it does affect any orders you have made with Monkhouse they will communicate directly with those parents as they get further information from the supply chain. Thankfully, we received the vast majority of complimentary uniform that we are supplying to your children and would like to thank all of you that have collected the uniform from school this week. If you have been unable to collect from school we will send the uniform home with your child on Monday.

Please do not worry if you do not have all of your uniform or PE kit at the present moment in time it is acceptable for children to wear their old uniform or, for example, plain white polo shirt and alternative PE kit on their PE days, whilst we chase all the orders we have made with Monkhouse. If you need to do a last minute check of uniform requirements please check the website <https://northbrookpa.org/parents-carers/school-uniform> and any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact us on enquiries@northbrookpa.org.

COVID Protocols

We are pleased that we are be able to return to a more 'normal' school next week with children being able to mix with other year groups, classrooms set up to support group work



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and a full extra-curriculum programme being offered. The three key changes to the guidance to schools need to follow are listed below:

1. Keeping pupils or students in year group or classroom bubbles to reduce mixing is no longer a requirement.
2. Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace. Education settings are no longer expected to undertake contact tracing.
3. Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas. This also applies to parents dropping off or collecting their child.

It is now expected that all children will attend school unless they have symptoms related to COVID or they have been directed to isolate by test and trace. However, this does not mean that COVID has gone away and it is important that we stay vigilant. Ensuring good hygiene including frequent and thorough hand cleaning and the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach, keeping occupied spaces well ventilated and following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 are all still extremely important.

A few 'Frequently Asked Questions'

What should I do if my child develops COVID-19 symptoms?

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- new continuous cough and/or
- fever (temperature of 37.8°C or higher)
- loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child develops any of these symptoms, you must arrange for them to have a PCR test as soon as possible. A PCR test can be arranged via the NHS UK (www.nhs.uk) website or by contacting NHS 119 via telephone if you do not have internet access.

Your child should self-isolate immediately and they should not attend school.

Please contact the us by phone to inform us your child has COVID-19 symptoms and you are awaiting a COVID-19 test.

Anyone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test should self-isolate until the latest of:

- 10 days after the onset of their symptoms, or
- 10 days after their test day if they are asymptomatic

Self-isolation means your child should not go to school, attend any out of school activities or visit a friend's house. They should not visit any public places, use public transport or go out to exercise. You should not have visitors into the home except for those providing essential care.

What should I do if my child is a contact of someone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test?

If your child is aged under 18 years and 6 months and does not have any symptoms of COVID-19 they do not have to self-isolate as a contact of COVID-19.

They are advised to have a PCR test unless they have had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days.

Children aged 5 and under are not advised to take a PCR test unless the confirmed case is someone in their own household.

Over the next few days

Teaching staff will communicate with you to welcome the NPA community back to school and make sure you are aware of key information such as which days they will need to attend in PE kit for their PE lessons. As the school will be using the school dining hall for lunch times you may now want your child to have school dinners. If this is the case please make sure that your child's parent pay account is topped up (meals cost £2.35) and that we are aware of any dietary needs. Again, any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Dates for the diary

Autumn Term 2021	
School Opens for All Years	Monday 6th September (8.45am-8.55am)
Children's Individual Photographs	Friday 10 th September (dependent on uniform deliveries)
Year 6 Consultation Evening	Wednesday 29 th September
Parent's Evening	Thursday 7 th October
Half-term Holidays	Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October
School Opens for All Years	Monday 1 st November
KS1 Christmas play	Tuesday 7 th December
KS2 Christmas play	Thursday 9 th December
End of Term for children	Friday 17th December (2.10/2.15pm closure)
Christmas Holidays	Monday 20 th December – Friday 31 st December
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd January
INSET DAY	Tuesday 4th January
School Opens for All Years	Wednesday 5th January

We hope that you have all had a great summer break, but please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel there is some important information that you need to make us aware of to allow us to best support your child. We are really looking forward to helping ensure that every member of the NPA community can be the very best they can be!

Kindest regards,

M Cunniffe

Mr M Cunniffe
Head of School