



Sitwell Infant School

Headteacher: Mrs K. Peart

Grange Road, Rotherham

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6th September 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back!

I hope you have had a lovely summer with your families and that you are all well. It has been a wonderful start to the new academic year and it has been lovely to see the children return to school happy and ready to learn. It has also been delightful to welcome our new families into the Sitwell Infant community. Our new children in Classes 6, 7 & 8 have settled beautifully this morning following their transition visits last week.

I am writing this letter to give you some key information about the weeks ahead, to make sure you have the information you need to be able to support your child as best you possibly can. Following the end of the national lockdown in the summer holidays, we have planned for an easing of restrictions within school to allow the children to return to a more normal routine this year. The main changes we have made mean that children are now able to play together at lunchtime and playtime in the yard, eat their lunch together in the hall and return to whole school assemblies together. To support the restrictions, many hygiene practises will continue, such as washing hands more regularly, and there will be appropriate ventilation in each of the classrooms and shared areas throughout school. School staff will also continue to complete twice weekly tests at home.

Although we have been able to relax some restrictions, a full risk assessment is in place and we have also developed an Outbreak Management Plan, which details the process we will follow if any restrictions need to be reinstated at any point. If at any point, restrictions need to be reinstated, we will communicate this to you swiftly so you are aware of the situation in school.

Staggered start and finish times

We have made the decision to still stagger start and finish times for classes to ensure we can bring them into school in a safe way. Please find the timings below:

	Start time	Finish time
Classes 2 & 4	8.45am	3.00pm
Classes 1, 3 & 5	8.50am	3.05pm
Classes 6, 7 & 8	8.55am	3.10pm

It is imperative that all children start school at their designated times. We have sadly had quite a lot of families arriving late during the first few days. If children arrive 5 minutes after their start time, they will be given a late mark. Arriving late regularly can have a negative impact on children's learning and emotional development.





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PE lessons

Children will take part in PE lessons, which they will need a PE kit for, each week. Children in Classes 6, 7 & 8 will take part in one PE session in the hall or on the school field, and they will then use their outdoor area to support their physical development throughout the week. Children in Classes 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 will take part in two PE sessions in the hall or on the school field each week. Please find the days for each class's PE lessons below:

Class	Days
Class 1	Wednesday & Thursday
Class 2	Tuesday & Wednesday
Class 3	Tuesday & Thursday
Class 4	Thursday & Friday
Class 5	Monday & Tuesday
Class 6	Tuesday
Class 7	Thursday
Class 8	Wednesday

Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school for their PE days. If it is taken home to wash each week, please ensure it is returned in time for their next PE session. **All of your child's uniform, including their PE kit, has their name written in the label.** This will help to make sure items of clothing are returned to the correct owner if misplaced! This year, we have purchased school hoodies for every child, for them to wear for PE outside. These have been ordered directly into school and will be placed in your child's PE bag. If their kit is taken home to wash, please ensure their hoody is put back in their bag with the rest of their kit so they have it ready in case we do PE lessons outside. **Please note that children are not permitted to wear any jewellery to school, except for a pair of plain stud earrings. These must be removed from your child's ears on the day(s) they have PE.**

Breakfast club & after school provision

We offer a Breakfast Club every day in school from 7.45am. Children need to arrive before 8am every morning that they are attending. Children are able to have a healthy breakfast and play games with their friends. The cost of Breakfast Club is £3 per day. Please inform the school office staff if you need to book a place for your child.

After school provision will begin next week for children in Classes 1 – 5 with Live & Learn Sports leading a Football club on Tuesdays and a Disney Dance club on Thursdays. Information about this has been emailed to parents of children in these classes. Please inform the school office staff if you need to book a place for your child. School staff will also begin leading clubs on a Monday after school from Monday 20th September. A letter with full information about this will be sent home this week.



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Children in Classes 6, 7 & 8 are able to attend Breakfast Club each day if needed, but places at after school provision are open to them after October half term. We feel this allows them time to settle into school life during these first few weeks, without extending the school day too much.

Key dates

Please find below a list of dates for your diary of key events that will be happening over this half term:

Friday 10th September – Poet visit for whole school (further info will be shared this week)

Monday 13th September – Classes 1 – 5 visit to Cleethorpes

Monday 4th October – Individual Photographs

Friday 22nd October – INSET day – school closed for all children

Monday 1st November – school reopens at the normal time

Communication

A newsletter with key information will be shared monthly to keep you up to date with what is happening in school. We also share information regularly via email, as well as through our School App. If you have not downloaded the school app yet, please do so as soon as possible to ensure you get all communication from us. Please get in touch if you need support with this.

We are very much looking forward to working in partnership with you over the year. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Peart
Headteacher



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