



Donington Cowley Endowed Primary School

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3rd March 2021

Arrangements for 8th March 2021 – Return to school for all children

Dear Parent/Carer

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to school on Monday 8th March 2021. Everything is ready for the children's return and we cannot wait to all be together again. Thank you all for your wonderful support during the last few weeks.

Following the publication of the Government's guidance 'Schools' coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance ~ February 2021', we have been working to ensure that we have a good plan in place for everyone's return on 8th March 2021.

The robust protocols and systems we established during the Autumn Term 2020 will continue to be used when the children return to school.

Bubbles

The children will continue to work in their class 'bubbles'. Each class will be a bubble, working together but maintaining a distance from other classes within the school. This includes playtimes and lunchtimes which will be staggered as they were during the Autumn Term.

Hygiene

Children and staff will be expected to wash their hands upon arrival at school and regularly throughout the day. Parents/carers do not need to send their children with sanitising hand gel. We have a good supply in school.

Cleaning

We will maintain the cleaning systems that have been put into place during the Autumn Term. Surfaces will be regularly cleaned by school staff during each school day.

Ventilation

All areas of the school, including classrooms will be well ventilated. Windows will be opened throughout the school and will remain open all day.

Arrival at school

To make things easier for our families we will continue to offer a flexible staggered start to each day.

- All children should arrive at school between **8:40 and 9:00 a.m.** each day. **Only arrive at 8:40 a.m. if you really need to.**
- When they arrive at school, the children will go straight into their classroom, wash their hands and get ready for the day.
- Staff will be on hand to help your child to know what to do when they arrive at school.
- If your child is in KS2 (Years 3, 4,5 and 6) please see them through the school gate **but do not enter the school premises yourself.**
- If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 only **one** adult may come on to the school premises at the beginning or end of the day.
- When your child is safely delivered to school, do **not** gather around the school gate. Please leave the school area straight away so that everyone can keep a safe distance from each other.
- The school gate will be closed just after 9 a.m. each day.
- **At the moment, if you have a message for your child's teacher, please do not come into school. Please either ring Mrs Baxter or Mrs Bach in the school office or email the school. If the message is urgent, please ring rather than email.**

We are hoping that by giving an arrival 'window' of 20 minutes, people will naturally spread out, keeping their distance from each other. Please time your arrival carefully. If you do not need to drop your child off at 8:40 a.m., then wait and come in a bit later.

End of the school day (These arrangements are the same as for the Autumn Term 2020)

The end of the school day is much more of a challenge in terms of ensuring that everyone is able to stick to social distancing. With this in mind, the arrangements are as follows:

- Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children – Please collect your child at **3:00 p.m.**
- When you have collected your Reception, Y1 or Y2 child, if you have a child in KS2, please wait in the designated area and your KS2 child will come out at **3:10 p.m.** to join you. (We will show you all where to wait.)
- The rest of the children will finish school at **3:20 p.m.**
- Please ensure that each child is collected by only **one adult.**
- Please **do not** arrive earlier than the allocated collection time for your child.
- We will continue to liaise with 'Little Pickles' to ensure that there is one agreed school pick up time for children attending their after-school care facility.

In Summary (quick check)

Year group	Drop Off <i>Only come at 8:40 if you really need to for work commitments. Do not gather at the school gate before 8:40 a.m.</i>	Collection
Reception, Y1, Y2	Between 8:40 – 9:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.
KS2 siblings of Reception, Y1, Y2	Between 8:40 – 9:00 a.m.	3:10 p.m.
The rest of the KS2 children	Between 8:40 – 9:00 a.m.	3:20 p.m.

Please note that the visitors' toilets remain closed.

Covid-19 symptoms

The symptoms of COVID-19 are as follows:

- A new continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A loss of, or change in, the sense of smell or taste

If your child or anyone in your household has any of these symptoms, they must not come to school. The current Government guidance around testing and self-isolation must be followed. If a child presents with any of these symptoms whilst at school, they will be isolated from other children and we will contact you straight away so that the child can be collected. At this point, a test should be booked and we would ask that the results are shared confidentially with the school. Pupils and staff who are sent home due to COVID-19 symptoms will only be allowed to return to school once the test results are received or the designated period of self-isolation is followed.

If a child or member of staff tests positive for COVID-19, we will follow the guidance from Public Health England. This may result in the school having to close a bubble or bubbles for a period of time.

Please click on the link below for the stay at home guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Lunch

Hot lunches will continue to be served this term. Please ensure that you have ordered from Willoughby Foods Ltd if required. Full details of lunchtime procedures are included in the school's updated Risk Assessment which can be found on our school website:

<https://www.cowley.lincs.sch.uk/> The updated Risk Assessment for whole school re-opening will be available on the website from 4th March 2021.

Extra-curricular clubs

Due to the bubble arrangements, there will be no clubs during the period up to Easter. We will keep this under regular review so that we can start our clubs again as soon as possible.

Swimming

Due to the current situation, unfortunately we will not be able to go swimming at Spalding Leisure Centre. We will closely monitor the national and local advice and we will update our plans accordingly.

P.E.

Whenever possible, P.E. will take place outdoors. From 8th March, children in Year 2 – 6 should come to school already dressed in their outdoor PE Kit. The class teachers will email you with the days that your child has P.E. The children do not need to bring their school uniform to school on their P.E. days. Children in Reception and Year 1 will need their P.E. bags as usual.

Resources

Each child will need a named water bottle. Reading books will be changed as normal. When books are returned to school, they will be placed in 'quarantine' for 72 hours before they are reissued to another child. We will be outside as much as possible so please make sure that your child brings a **waterproof coat** each day.

Mobile phones

If your child walks to school unaccompanied and carries their mobile phone with them, it must be switched off immediately upon arrival at school and handed to the class teacher to be locked in their drawer until the end of the school day. Each mobile phone will be stored in a zipped, named plastic bag.

Staff Testing – Lateral Flow Devices

Staff in primary schools in England will continue to self-test with Lateral Flow Devices (LFDs) twice a week at home. Primary age pupils will **NOT** be tested with LFDs.

Attendance

The Government has stated that school attendance will be mandatory for all pupils from 8th March.

The exception would be if your child/children:

- have symptoms of COVID-19 or have had a positive test result
- live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive and are a household contact
- are a close contact of someone who has COVID-19

Welcoming the children back to school

We realise that some children may be anxious about coming back to school after such a long break. We will do everything in our power to look after and reassure your child. We cannot wait to all be together again. We will see you all on Monday 8th March.

With my very best wishes to you all.

Marina Faulkner

Mrs M J Faulkner
Headteacher

National Lockdown

England is still in national lockdown and so we must all remember to stick to the rules to keep everyone safe. Please keep your distance from people who do not live in your house. Move quickly away from the school area so that we do not have groups of adults gathering. Please continue to wear a face covering when you enter the school premises. Please do everything you can to keep everyone safe. Thank you.