

# Culcheth Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs A Dodd BSc (Hons) NPQH



Where Learning is Fun!

16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

At the end of the most unusual year for us all, I am writing to you to thank you all for the amazing support that you have given to school over the last six months and to thank you for all of the hard work that you have done completing work with your children (we know it hasn't always been easy!)

We wish you all a very happy, peaceful, safe and restful summer and look forward to welcoming you back in September.

In September, we are planning to be back to full time for all classes.

We are splitting the school into groups or 'bubbles' so that any possible outbreaks of infection can be contained easily. The groups will be:

- Reception
- Y1/2
- Y3/4
- Y5/6

The groups will be able to have playtime together, assemblies and eat lunch together – hopefully making school feel a little more back to normal.

## Starting and Finishing times

We will have a staggered start with classroom doors being open from 8.40-8.55am. We are also going to trial staggered finishes so you will be able to collect your child from between 3-3.15pm. Reception to Y2 will go into school and leave by their classroom doors, Y5 and 6 by the Y5 conservatory and Y3 and 4 by the side entrance. In the evenings a staff member will stand by the gate with a walkie talkie so call your child from the class – please bear with us as we trial this new system. We are trying hard to eliminate waiting times and groups gathering as well as alleviating congestion on the car park. We know that there may be initial teething problems and we may make minor adjustments as we go along to improve our organisation.

If your child is in Y6 and they are walking home alone, we will release them at 3.15pm. Please let Miss Knowles know if you want your child to walk home (Y6 parents).

## Classrooms

To keep our pupils as safe as possible, we will be using all the government guidance around cleaning and safe systems for working. Children will be able to sit next to each other at their desks, as the social distancing requirements for primary children has been reduced, however, they will sit in the same place for most of the time and have their own personal pack of equipment to use (We have found that children really like this). The chairs in the classroom will all be arranged so that they are all facing forward and are at least 2m distance from the teachers who will be facing them (if teaching from the front of the room)

### Uniform

We are asking children return in full uniform. The daily requirement for washing clothes has been removed. Children will also need a full PE kit in school please.

### Things to bring to school

We are restricting the number of items the children bring into school and ask that only a book bag, lunch box and water bottle are brought – no large backpacks please as we struggle to store them. If your child needs to have an overnight bag with them, we will store it for you near the school office.

### School lunches and snacks

The children will be able to eat school dinners or their packed lunch in the school hall. There will be a rota system for lunches and all playtimes to prevent groups of children mixing. There is a slightly reduced menu on offer which is on the school website and has been emailed to you. Snacks will be provided if required - toast and either juice or milk. If a snack is brought from home, it must be a healthy snack – fruit, yoghurt, cheese or healthy low sugar, low fat snack bar. Crisps, biscuits or sweets are not allowed as snack. Sweets and chocolate bars are also not allowed as part of a packed lunch, although a chocolate coated biscuit such as a penguin or kit kat is permitted.

### Wraparound care

Our wraparound care club will run as usual from the first day. We will keep children in their class groups where possible – the children will be able to play outside together. Please book in advance on ParentPay.

### Possible infections

The symptoms that we are currently being asked to watch out for are:

- A persistent cough – the NHS definition of this can be found online but a quick summary is 'a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)'
- A high temperature
- A loss of taste or smell

If a child has any of these symptoms, we ask that they are kept off school and are taken for a test ASAP. If symptoms develop in school, we will send a child home straight away and ask you to take them for a test.

### Homework

We are very conscious that we have a lot of catching up to do to make sure that all of our children are working at the correct level. It will be really important to complete any set homework as this may be work set to fill in gaps in knowledge or understanding, to recap over previous missed learning or to get your child ready for learning in the classroom for the next week. Your support in this will make a huge difference to your child. Regular reading of school books or online reading will also be an essential part of catching up on lost learning.

We have put a lot of the formal guidance onto the school website under the Covid-19 tab. IF you have any questions or queries, please contact us at school.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to working in partnership with you next year

Kind regards

Mrs Dodd  
Headteacher