

# **Culcheth Community Primary School**

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Headteacher: Mrs A Dodd BSc (Hons) NPQH



Where Learning is Fun!

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you to confirm the details of school re-opening on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Please can I start by saying a huge thank you to all parents who have been supporting their child's home learning. We hope that now we have an effective vaccine rollout, life will slowly return to normal.

As there is a lot of information, I will try to summarise in bullet points:

The whole school Risk Assessment has been updated and is available to view online in the Covid-19 tab on the school website.

- The Government have said that it is mandatory to send your child back to school on 8<sup>th</sup> March. If you have concerns about your child returning or are considering elective home education so that your child can stay off school for longer, please contact school as soon as possible.
- School times

School will start between 8.40 and 8.55am to allow for a staggered start and to stop groups of parents gathering. Please do not arrive any earlier than 8.40am and please 'drop and go'. The same points to drop off and collect will be used as previously. Please be on time for school drop off as we are trying to minimise the risk of infection transmission by reducing the number of people who come into school via the main entrance – your help with this would be very much appreciated.

School will finish between 3pm and 3.15pm to allow for a staggered pick up. Please do not feel that you are late if you are after 3pm – we are trying to provide the safest environment by having staggered times that prevents gathering of groups. Please do not allow your child to play on equipment or with friends – please just collect and leave ASAP – thank you.

- Wrap around care

All Stars will run daily from 7.30am until 6pm. Please book your child onto sessions in advance via ParentPay so that we can staff the club according to numbers requiring care.

- School uniform

All children will be asked to wear full school uniform and PE kit as required on their return to school.

- Classes

Children will be in a bubble in their own class. As school re-opens fully, we will be unable to seat the children at 2m distance so they will NOT be socially distanced in their classroom. They will sit at the same desk, have their own equipment and all sit in the same direction.

- Playtimes and lunchtimes

Playtimes will be staggered to ensure that contact between bubbles is kept to a minimum. Equipment will be cleaned between groups. Lunches will be eaten in the school hall on a staggered rota. Tables and seats will be disinfected between classes. Lunches will continue to be provided by the kitchen and can be ordered in advance on ParentPay.

- Illness

Nobody will be allowed into school who shows any symptoms of coronavirus. We ask that any child showing symptoms is taken for testing and does not return to school until a negative test result is received. Any child who is a close contact of a positive Coronavirus case will need to isolate for 10 days. If they develop symptoms within the period of isolation or test positive for Coronavirus, the 10 day period starts again from this point.

If there is a positive case reported in a class, the whole class will self-isolate for 10 days if they have been in contact with the positive case within 48 hours of a positive test or the person's symptoms starting. Their family does not have to self-isolate unless the close contact themselves tests positive or develops symptoms. If this occurs, the whole household will then be required to self-isolate for 10 days.

If your child has to self-isolate, remote education will commence from the second day of absence until their return.

- Cleaning

Additional cleaning of all surfaces has been in place since last March and will remain in place. Children and staff wash their hands or sanitize regularly. All play equipment is cleaned between groups.

- Ventilation

Windows will be open in all school areas to allow for a constant flow of clean air through the building.

- Testing

All staff complete twice weekly lateral flow tests. Children of primary school age are not currently being asked to test and will not be tested in school. Recent media coverage has suggested that families will be asked to test at home – we have not yet had an update on this, but are awaiting details.

- Masks

Primary age children are not required to wear masks in school. Staff only need to wear a mask if they come within 2 metres of other adults, so masks will only be worn by staff who are greeting parents at the school doors. All visitors to the school site are asked to wear a mask.

- Parents/Carers in school

At present, we are requesting NO parents come into school or into the entrance during core school hours unless they have made an appointment to do so (drop off at All Stars wrap round care remains as usual)

- Bags in school

Please minimise the amount of things your child brings into school. Please only send essential equipment in the smallest bag possible to help with storage and cleaning.

- Parents Evening

We will hold a virtual Parents Evening before Easter and will hold another Parents Evening in the Summer Term.

- Trips and Visits

These are not yet allowed – we will monitor any changes to regulations.

- Assemblies

These are not allowed at present.

- Sports Day and school events

It looks unlikely that we will be allowed to have any gatherings of groups for a while yet. Our greatest wish is to be back to normal, but we are also very aware that we must keep all of our community as safe as possible. We will monitor the regulations that we have to adhere to and keep you informed via the newsletter.

We are planning to start running after school clubs after Easter, if the guidance permits at that time. Clubs will be run in class bubbles.

We are aware that there is an awful lot of information, however we are working under very strict guidelines from the Government that can be seen on the gov.uk website.

We will continue to monitor all of our procedures and amend as required if guidance changes or is updated. We will make you aware of any changes. If you have any worries or concerns, please contact Mrs Dodd at school to discuss them.

Thank for your continued support.

Mrs Dodd

