

Cassop Primary School



Cassop Primary School, Cassop, Durham DH6 4RA Tel: 0191 3770293
email: cassop@durhamlearning.net website: www.cassop.durham.sch.uk
Headteacher: Ms V Hewison

Tuesday 19th May 2020

Dear Parents,

Further information for the re-opening of school

Further to our letter yesterday we have been working hard to make our school ready for the return of priority year groups on 1st June. (Reception, Year 1 and Year 6)

As outlined yesterday we will be operating a staggered start and end to the school day along with a phased return to school. Several other measures will be implemented once the children return:-

- Children will be asked to wash their hands on arrival to school (and at other regular points in the day);
- Children will be grouped into 'bubbles' of no more than 15 – these will be year group based with the exception of the key worker bubble;
- Children will not be allowed to move from one bubble to another or mix with children from another bubble;
- Within their bubble, children will be reminded to use social distancing and the layout of the classroom and availability of resources will assist this;
- Each bubble will be allocated a classroom – there will be no use of shared areas such as the dining hall or PE hall;
- Shared equipment and soft furnishing have been limited in each classroom;
- Children will eat their lunches in their classroom bubble;
- Staggered playtimes will allow for more space outside and ensure bubbles do not mix;
- Officially the curriculum has been suspended however we will endeavour to teach the children in the most appropriate way whilst maintaining a 2 metre distance;
- No resources or equipment from home must be brought in – we will provide each child with a stationery pack on their desk – this also includes book bags;
- Children should wear school uniform and this should be washed before returning to school or clean uniform worn each time attending school;
- **Any child that becomes unwell or shows symptoms will be immediately isolated and parents contacted to collect their child from school. They will need to self-isolate for 14 days or until tested negative;**
- **If a child or adult shows symptoms and tests positive for COVID-19 then the whole group (bubble) that the child was in will be sent home and they must self-isolate for 14 days.**



FAQ:

I have children in two different priority year groups (for eg Y1 and Y6) what time do I arrive?

You can drop off both children at the earlier time (9:15am) and collect at the earlier time of 3:15pm. Key Stage 1 children usually finish their day at 3:15 and we do not have the capacity to offer after school child care. You do not need to wait at the gate for the separate times as we are actively encouraging parents to disperse after drop-off and collection.

Which bubble will my child be in?

At present we do not know which children will be returning to school however we will use predominately friendship groups to arrange bubbles but we cannot guarantee they will be with all their friends. Once the children are allocated a bubble they cannot switch bubbles.

I am a key worker and need childcare on some of the days when the priority groups aren't in school?

If you are a key worker and need childcare please complete a key worker childcare form available from p2362.admin@durhamlearning.net. We are continuing to offer key worker childcare from 9am – 3:30pm every day. However please note we cannot mix 'bubbles' therefore if your child needs childcare they will be in the key worker bubble not their year group bubble.

Who can pick my child up?

Reading the government documents it says 'parents and children and young people' should be encouraged to 'walk or cycle to their education setting where possible.' There has been questions about grandparents dropping off and collecting however this would then introduce another household and the possibility of infection would increase for children, staff and other households.

Can my child have a school dinner?

At the moment Taylor Shaw are looking into the possibility of providing a hot dinner, although this is not yet certain, we will definitely have either a packed lunch or hot option available.

Do I have to tell you if my child is not returning to school?

To assist with our planning it would be helpful to know if you are definitely NOT sending your child back to school on 1st June.

Will I be fined if I don't send my child back?

No you will not. It is your decision whether you believe it is safe to return your child to school – each family has a variety of different personal factors to consider therefore we will continue providing online learning for every year group via the school website and no fixed penalties will be issued at this point.



What will happen after the 22nd June – the next stage of the government’s roadmap?

At present we know as much as you do. We found out the priority year groups for the return on 1st June via the Prime Minister’s speech, at the same time as you. However, if bubbles are to remain we do not have enough space in school to accommodate 14 bubbles (two for each year group) therefore we would have to look at timetabling different year groups or bubbles for different days – it would not be logistically possible to offer every bubble 100% of the time in school.

What about school trips like Low Mill and London?

At the moment we are working with both providers and taking advice from the Local Authority – as soon as we have further information we will inform you directly.

What about things like Leavers and Sports Day?

At this point in time we are working on a return to school, for priority year groups, where children must stay in their bubbles of no more than 15. As the government release more information about the next stages in their roadmap we may have a better idea about events with larger numbers and make plans accordingly.

I hope that information answers a good deal of your questions however if you have further information please do not hesitate to contact school via email on p2362.admin@durhamlearning.net

Once again your continued support and understanding is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully



**Ms V Hewison
Headteacher**

