



Darrington CE Primary School

Re-opening of School Guidance
Following COVID-19 Closure

**Guidance for Parents, Carers and
Children**

Effective date 8th March 2021

Introduction

Following the Government's announcement that Primary Schools can re-open to all pupils, we are pleased to welcome all our pupils back from **Monday 8th March 2021 at 8.45am.**

The latest Government guidance, continues to acknowledge that it will not always be possible to maintain social-distancing for some year groups due to the age of the children, however, children should remain in bubbles or small groups where possible. Guidance does now state that staff can mix between classes and groups if required and therefore your child may be taught by someone other than their teacher if we need to cover classes.

We feel that the safest approach will be to continue using the existing entrances and exits that will be used by children and parents for drop off and collections. This will also apply to the entrances into the school grounds. Parents should observe strict social distancing whilst attending school to drop off or collect their children and only **one parent or carer will be permitted** to drop off or collect at any one time which will reduce the number of people on site.

School Day Timings

We feel that the return to school in September 2020, was extremely successful, and therefore we will continue with the teaching time provision, lunch times and breaks. The school day will be 8.45am to 3.00pm for all classes and Nursery. Lunch time and breaks will continue to remain staggered.

Nursery Children

Parents should use the Denby Crest Entrance to drop off and collect children, maintaining distancing whilst you are waiting. Parents will be given a time slot to drop their child off and will use the footpath and Nursery Entrance at the side of school to drop off children. There will be a one-way system in place for parents/carers to follow. During the school day, Nursery children will be limited to the Nursery and Reception Classroom area only. They will have a zoned area which will be part of the current EYFS Outdoor Provision. Nursery children will need to bring a packed lunch and we ask that you send items your child can open easily and will eat. Children will eat in their classroom and will have an additional lunchtime supervisor join this group over the lunchtime period.

Reception – Based in Tigers' Classroom

Children in Reception will go back to their usual classroom but will enter from the side gate at the Denby Crest side of the school. Parents should use the Denby Crest entrance to drop off and collect their children.

Year 1 and 2 – Dolphins' Classroom

Children in these groups will be based back in their own classroom and parents and carers should use the Phillips Lane entrance and adhere to the social distancing rules upon entering the school premises even if this means waiting in a line to enter the school classroom. Parents will need to wait with their child until they have safely been entered into school. Adults will be asked to leave their child at the classroom entrance and your child must then walk willingly into the classroom where the teacher or adult for this group will greet them.

Year 3 and 4 – Meerkats' Classroom

Children in these groups will be based in their own classroom and parents and carers should use the Phillips Lane Entrance and adhere to the social distancing rules upon entering the school premises, even if this means waiting in a line to enter the school classroom. Parents will need to wait with their child until they have safely been entered into school. Adults will be asked to leave their child at the classroom entrance and your child must then walk willingly into the classroom where the teacher or adult for this group will greet them.

Year 5 and 6 – Based in Eagles' Classroom

Children in this year group will be in one group. Parents will need to enter and leave the school using the Denby Crest entrance and walk round the side of the school (near the garden) to their usual classroom. We understand that by agreement some of our Year 6 children do walk to and from school unaccompanied. If this is something you wish for

your child to do you will need to ensure they are familiar with the social distancing rules and that they may have to join a queue to enter school. This will be monitored by school staff and if it becomes apparent that your child is not able to safely follow social distancing rules, we will ask parents or carers to accompany them. Please email the office to give consent for your child to walk to and from school unaccompanied.

As you will appreciate, with all these additional measures in place this means that dropping off your child at school will take longer than before and we would request your patience and understanding during these times. This also means that parents **will not** be able to use this time to speak to teachers regarding issues they may have. We would ask you to please respect this and if you wish to pass on any messages to teachers or need to speak with your child's teacher, please telephone or email the school and this will be passed on directly to the teacher. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher, a telephone appointment can be made once the school day has finished. Members of SLT (Senior Leadership Team) will be on the playground each morning to deal with any urgent issues or messages for teachers.

Playtimes and Lunches

We will continue to keep children in their groups or bubbles whilst they are outside playing by using different parts of the outdoor provision. Children will be able to have lunch in the hall once again and this will be staggered over two sittings with younger classes first. **All school meals must be ordered in advance by completing the booking for which will be sent out the week before we return.**

First Aid and Intimate Care

If your child requires First Aid whilst in school, this will be administered in line with our policy. First Aiders will wear PPE which will include a face mask, disposable gloves and apron to deal with any incidents. You may therefore wish to speak to your child about this prior to joining us in school so that they are not anxious by this.

Sun cream must be applied in a morning before coming to school and we ask that children can apply their own sun-cream throughout the day. Please also provide your child with a sun hat.

School Office

The school office will remain closed to all parents and members of the public who do not have a pre-arranged appointment until further notice. If you wish to contact school, you can ring us on **01977 232320** or email admin@darringtonschool.org.uk. If we are unable to answer your call, you should leave us a message and we will return your call, emails will also be regularly checked throughout the day.

Visitors to school will not be permitted unless by prior appointment and only if it is essential that they visit during this time.

Hand washing and general hygiene

Children will be required to wash their hands much more frequently throughout the day and for 20 seconds using hand washing stations and alcohol hand gel containing at least 70% alcohol for each group. There are hand washing facilities designated for each group to avoid groups having to use the same areas. We will follow guidance on general hygiene and will practice the 'catch it, kill it, bin it' procedures. It would greatly assist in preparation for returning to school if you could practice these with your child. We have posters displayed around school as visual prompts.

Illness in school

If a child or adult working in school becomes ill during the school day or displays and signs of COVID-19 they will immediately be taken to an 'isolation room' within school. This will be a designated room. A child will be supervised by an adult until the parent or carer can collect and may wear a face mask and PPE if a safe distance of 2 metres cannot safely or practically be achieved. Please ensure you have arrangements to collect your child immediately in the event of school phoning to collect. If a child or adult is sent home with symptoms, they will not be allowed back into school

for a period of 10 days and should follow the NHS self-isolation advice for the family. We would advise that you request a Covid test, however, this is your choice.

If your child does have a test and it is negative, they may return to school the following day upon providing school a copy of this. If a child tests positive for Covid 19 and we have identified your child as a contact, a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will ring parents in the affected class only and provide guidance as per public health at that time.

Uniform, School Bags and Water Bottles

Please ensure your child wears the correct uniform, details of which [can be found on our website](#). Please read our new Uniform Policy. Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.

Your child will be permitted to bring into school their usual school bag, packed lunch and a water bottle. Toys or other items from home will not be allowed to be brought into school. For children in Nursery and Reception, could you please bring a spare set of clothes, wellies and waterproof trousers in a named carrier bag to be left in school. These items will be extremely important as the children will be outdoors in all weather. Children should be sent to school each day with a water bottle which has fresh clean water in. The school drinking fountains will be out of use for children, the adult in the group will re-fill their bottle if required during the day.

School Books

Books **must** be returned on a Friday morning so that we can allow 72 hours between them being re-issued to another child the next week. This will dramatically reduce the risk of passing on any infections. If your child does not return their reading book, they will not be allocated a new book. Children reading longer books will be able to return them on a Friday only to get a new book the following week. We have limited supplies of books in school, therefore, we would really appreciate your support in this matter.

Cleaning

Whilst we already had a robust cleaning regime in school prior to the Covid 19 pandemic, we felt it was appropriate to increase this level and frequency even further throughout the pandemic. We reduced the finishing times of each school day to allow the adults in their classroom time to clean the areas and resources that have been used including high frequency areas such as light switches and door handles, desks and chairs. Our usual cleaning team will then follow in classrooms.

Attendance

The DfE now states that it is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development.

We will work with you as parents and carers to ensure you feel confident about your child returning, however, there will be no allowances made for children who simply do not want to attend school from 8th March 2021 and we will record all unauthorised absences in line with our attendance policy.

Please also refer to our school policy on arriving on time for school. Children who are late should access the school through the reception door from the side of school you drop off at.

Extended Wrap Around Care - Breakfast Club

We are pleased to be able to offer Breakfast Club once again, however, this will be in two separate groups, EYFS/KS1, and KS2. Breakfast Club will be available from 7:30am and will be charged at the usual rate of £4.00 including breakfast, and £2.50 for drop off from 8.15am. We will be offering a limited number of spaces within each group and increasing our staff members to provide this on a temporary basis. Numbers will need to be strictly adhered to. Places will be

booked on a 'first come, first served' basis and you will need to book in advance for **the full half-term** using the booking form on our website. This will allow you to book sessions for the half term, please let us know if you have booked a session that you no longer require, please email admin@darringtonschool.org.uk. You may still be charged for any missed sessions you had booked as we will be required to increase staffing to cover numbers. Payment for these sessions will be required each week. If you have any outstanding balances at the end of a week you will not be able to use this provision and your place may be offered to another child who is on the waiting list.

Afterschool Club

We will offer this provision as usual for all children however there is a limit on numbers due to needing to increase staffing. Parents will be required to book the days they require in advance, any children who have not been booked in will not be permitted to stay and parents will be rung to collect their child. We will be offering a limited number of spaces within each group and increasing our staff members to provide this on a temporary basis. Numbers will need to be strictly adhered to. Places will be booked on a 'first come, first served' basis and you will need to book in advance for **the full half-term** using the booking form on our website. This will allow you to book sessions for the half term, please let us know if you have booked a session that you no longer require, please email admin@darringtonschool.org.uk. You may still be charged for any missed sessions you had booked as we will be required to increase staffing to cover numbers. Payment for these sessions will be required each week. If you have any outstanding balances at the end of a week you will not be able to use this provision and your place may be offered to another child who is on the waiting list.

Wider Curriculum and Collective Worship

Children will continue to access the full curriculum and these subjects will be delivered in line with specific guidance (e.g. music and singing). For PE, Children should continue to come to school on their class PE day in their PE kit which means they do not need to get changed at school. Collective Worship will resume in smaller classes and bubbles with social distancing measures in place. However, unfortunately, at this time guidance does not permit parents to attend these. We will write to inform parents when they are able to come into school again.

Remote Learning

Remote learning will only be used in the case of children having to self-isolate, class bubbles being closed or in the unlikely event of another closure. Please refer back to the Remote Learning Plan which can be found on [our website](#).

Monitoring and Review

This document and the measures we have put in place will be reviewed after the first week in school and if required further changes may be made. We will also review any guidance sent to us by the relevant Government and Public bodies and again update our working practices if this is required. A full review will take place prior to the new term.

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