

Seton Community Primary School

Seaton Close, Staithes, Saltburn, Cleveland, TS13 5AU
Tel/Fax: 01947 840257
Email: admin@seton.n-yorks.sch.uk web: www.seton.n-yorks.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs H Isaac



4th September 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome back!

We are delighted to confirm that Seton will reopen to all children on Tuesday 8th September. We trust that you have all had a lovely summer (albeit in strange circumstances!) and are ready to return to some sense of normality. We are all very excited about the new term. There are only minor changes to our procedures which were published in July. As always, the safety and wellbeing of our staff and our children remains our first priority. We hope you will find the following information helpful.

`Bubbles`

We will be organising school into two separate groups, or `bubbles`. Bubble 1 consists of Class 1 and Class 2 pupils and Bubble 2 consists of Class 3 and Class 4 pupils. The bubble system worked very well in the summer term and we are confident that all children will quickly adapt to this. The bubbles help us to minimise the risk of infection and to comply with the latest government and NYCC recommendations. The two bubbles will be kept apart with additional safety measures as follows:

- **Increased hygiene measures will continue:** children will be directed to thoroughly wash hands frequently, including on arrival, and to adopt the `catch it, bin it, kill it` approach to coughing and sneezing
- **Increased frequency of cleaning tables and learning resources will continue,** with children helping to wipe down surfaces where possible.
- **There will be no whole school events in the first half of the Autumn term** so that we do not mix children from different bubbles. This includes assemblies, which will move to online assemblies as a temporary measure. This is constantly under review.
- **There will be no Breakfast Club in the first half of the Autumn term** so that we do not mix children from different bubbles. This will be reviewed during the first few weeks.
- **There will be no after school clubs in the Autumn term** to allow teachers additional time to clean resources and to mark books on site, rather than taking them home at the end of the day.
- **The school day will have staggered start and finish times** so that children from different bubbles do not mix:

**Class 3 and Class 4 should arrive between 8.30am and 8.45am
they will finish school at 3pm**

**Class 1 and Class 2 should arrive between 8.45am and 9.00am
they will finish school at 3.15pm.**

- Older children (Class 3 and Class 4) can walk home alone with parents' permission, but they must go straight home and not be allowed to call at the shop or elsewhere on the way back.



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- **Drop off and collection will be from the front of the school.** A member of staff will escort children through the main doors. Parents will be asked to drop-off at the bench near the Early Years playground and to exit via the clearly signed one-way system. Please maintain social distancing and exit the playground quickly to avoid congestion. Only one parent/carer should accompany the child to school.
- **Siblings can come into school and leave school together at the same time** – follow the time allocated to the oldest child.
- **Parents and other visitors will not be allowed in school** without an appointment. Telephone or online appointments will be arranged instead of meetings in school. In exceptional circumstances, a socially distanced meeting may be possible, but this must be pre-arranged.
- **At lunchtime and playtime, children will stay in their bubbles.** They will not be able to mix with children in another bubble.
- **A full school dinner service will resume**, but younger children (Class 1 and Class 2) will eat lunches in their classrooms to avoid mixing with other groups.
- **Children need to wear their normal school uniform each day**, (except on PE days – see below).
- **PE.** Autumn term PE is on Thursday for Class 1 and Class 2, on Wednesday for Class 3 and on Tuesday for Class 4. Class teachers will update children if there are any changes due to bad weather etc. We would prefer children to arrive in 'PE kit' and wear this all day on their allocated PE day. This will reduce the amount of excess bags/clothing in school. For that reason, the PE kit rules have been relaxed so that children can wear comfortable clothing which is appropriate for sports as well as the full day, e.g. tracksuit/leggings rather than shorts, if they wish. Please do not buy additional clothing for this. 'Playing out' clothes are ideal. If PE kits are brought into school for children to change into, they must be taken home at the end of the day as it will not be possible to store bags in school. (Deep cleaning will take place at the end of every day.)
- **Children should bring a coat/sun hat to school (depending on the weather) and only a school book bag for their reading book. Book bags will only need to be brought in at the beginning of the week (see below).** Please do not send over-sized bags.
- **Children will be given two reading books.** One book will stay in school. The other will go home at the beginning of the week and must be returned on Thursdays. These books will be 'quarantined' until the following Monday. School bags will therefore only need to come in at the beginning of the week (usually Monday) and again on Thursday.
- Children may bring a lunch box if they have a packed lunch. Ideally, this should be in a disposable carrier bag where possible.

Please be assured that they have been carefully considered to meet the needs of our children and staff, whose safety and wellbeing is of paramount importance.



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Responding to and reporting illness

Here are some tips to help keep your children safe on returning to school:

Symptomatic pupils

- **Children who show any signs of illness must not attend school.**
- **If ANY member of a household has symptoms of Covid-19, children must NOT attend school** until test results are received.
- Children who show signs of illness will be sent home from school. They will be isolated in a separate room until a parent arrives to collect them.
- Parents must report an illness to the school office, via telephone or email and provide a list of ALL symptoms as soon as their child begins to experience them, even if it is at the weekend or a day that their child is not due to attend school.

- **The main symptoms of Covid in children are:**
 - **A high temperature: over 37.8C**
 - **A new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 - **A loss or change to sense of smell or taste** – this means not being able to smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

COVID-19 Testing

- Where a child or staff member exhibits COVID symptoms, they will be expected to be tested within 24 hours and results disclosed to school immediately. If the result is positive then all members of the bubble will have to self-isolate for 14 days. If negative, the child or staff member can continue to attend school.

When a family member is ill

- If you suspect someone in your house has COVID-19, stay at home. Do your best to isolate yourself from the person who is ill. Make arrangements for the patient to be tested and inform school as soon as the result is known.



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We enclose a handy summary of the new procedures below:

In school	In the playground	Managing Attendance
<p>Hand cleaning stations will be set up at the designated entry and exit points of each classroom and everyone will use this as they enter or exit a room.</p> <p>Additional disinfectant wipes and spray will be available in classrooms.</p>	<p>Hygiene practices will be in place before and after eating.</p> <p>Access to sports equipment, including playgrounds, is allowed with appropriate hygiene practice after play. There will be no football.</p> <p>Children will need to bring their own named drink bottle to school, which must be taken home daily for thorough cleaning. Class 1 and Class 2 children have their own bottles in class, which will also need to be taken home daily for thorough cleaning.</p>	<p>Children and Staff will not attend if they are unwell.</p> <p>Children and Staff who become unwell during the school day will be sent home immediately.</p> <p>In school our contact tracing is a combination of attendance register and visitor register.</p>
Cleaning and Hygiene	Movement in and outside of school	Additional Considerations
<p>Toilets will be checked regularly throughout the day. Soap, water and the ability to dry hands is available for all children and staff.</p> <p>Cleaners will complete daily cleans in line with the Department of Health guidelines, including disinfecting and cleaning all surfaces daily. We will continue to model good hygiene practices (coughing into your elbow, don't touch your face, handwashing and drying) and regular cleaning of commonly touched surfaces.</p>	<p>We have chosen to continue to limit all non-essential curriculum activity both in and outside of school.</p> <p>No Whole School Assemblies or Whole School Events in the first half of the Autumn term - to be reviewed as we progress.</p> <p>School trips are 'on hold' for the Autumn term.</p>	<p>Wellbeing: children's wellbeing is our number one priority.</p> <p>Please let us know if you are concerned about your child or family.</p>

We appreciate that there is a lot to take in! Please be patient with us as we all get used to the new procedures ourselves and perhaps 'tweak' anything which needs to be improved. Our aim is to ensure everyone is safe and well, so that we can all make the most of every minute of learning.

We will continue to respond to further government guidance and this will be communicated to families via Facebook and our school website.



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Catch-up Curriculum

Families will be very aware of the media speculation about the 'learning gap' and the predicted difficulties children may face when they return to school. We have no doubt that some children may find it difficult at first to settle back into routines and to pick up where they left off, but we would like to reassure you that we are well-prepared to support all children on their return to school. We will prioritise children's social and emotional development to ensure they are ready to learn and we have excellent access to support services if these are needed. Please let us know – either by telephone or email - if you have particular concerns for your own child.

It is important to remember that ALL children have missed learning, so most children will have some catching up to do. We will prioritise maths and English skills from the previous year group during the autumn term in order to accelerate progress and to reach end of year expectations. To consolidate learning, we have reviewed our homework policy and we ask that parents support this to give all children the best chance of success. Details will be shared at the beginning of the new term.

Finally, we would like to thank you all for your support and patience during recent months. We look forward to a happy and productive autumn term.

Kind regards,

Helen Isaac
Headteacher

