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Headteacher: Mrs J Palmer

6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We can't wait to see everyone on Wednesday!

As a nation we are now in Step 4 and some measures in school have been relaxed. The attached risk assessment (which can also be found on the school website) details the COVID secure arrangements currently in place.

I am writing to you to let you know how things are going to look in school.

### **Bubbles**

We no longer need to operate in bubbles and can therefore make the most of shared breaktimes and lunchtimes, along with collective worship together too.

### **Contacts**

Close contacts will be identified by NHS Test and Trace and no longer the school. Children under the age of 18 are no longer required to self-isolate.

### **Symptoms**

Staff members and parents/carers must understand that they will need to be ready and willing to [book a test](#) if they are displaying symptoms. The main symptoms are a high temperature, a new continuous cough and/or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested if they have symptoms, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents or carers if using a home testing kit.

It remains essential that anyone who gets a positive result from a lateral flow test self-isolates immediately, as must other members of their household, while they get a confirmatory PCR test.



If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

### **Increased hygiene**

Cleaning schedules will continue to make sure that frequently touched surfaces are cleaned twice per day. Frequent handwashing with liquid soap and water for 20 seconds will continue to be a priority.

The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach is promoted and disposable tissues used.

### **Classrooms**

Children no longer need to sit in rows, and will mostly be arranged to work in groups. Classrooms will be always well ventilated.

### **Government information for parents**

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19)

### **School meals**

School meals are cooked fresh every day in our onsite kitchen by our lovely cooks, Mrs Fiona Blackmore and Mrs Beccy Haswell. Children can choose from a hot meal, or an alternative option of jacket potato, panini or sandwich option. Children are able to select their choice each morning as the register is taken.

Children from Nursery and Reception will eat their lunch together in the school dining hall with children from Class 2 and 3 from 11:45 - 12:15. Children from Class 4 and 5 will eat their lunch from 12:15 - 12:45pm.

Children are alternatively able to bring their own packed lunch.

### **Packed Lunches**

In order to flourish, we need a healthy body and mind. To help us achieve this we have chosen to work towards achieving North Yorkshire's Healthy Schools Award focusing on food as it plays such a big part in our health. We know that our school meal menus are carefully constructed by experts in food nutrition and so are beginning our journey by evaluating packed lunches.

We would like to achieve:

For every lunch to have two pieces of fruit or vegetables, which include at least one savoury item.

Every lunch to contain a portion of protein.

That no lunches contain sugary or fatty foods.

We ask that children do not have nuts in their packed lunches as we have children in school with nut allergies. Please comply with this request so we can keep our children safe. Can we please request that grapes/olives etc are cut in half lengthways to minimize a choking risk?

### **Uniform**

KS1 - School uniform should be worn every day. On days when PE is scheduled, children should bring their PE kits to school to get changed into for the lesson.

KS2 – School uniform should be worn on days when a PE lesson is not timetabled. PE kits can be worn for the whole day when the children have PE lessons.

To find out when your child has a PE lesson, please look at the class pages on the website.

### What to bring to school?

Children should bring the following:

- a full water bottle (to be taken home each day, cleaned and filled)
- if required, packed lunch (ensuring all packaging can be opened by your child)
- Reading book and reading record
- Fruit or vegetable for a snack at break (KS1 receive fruit from school)
- Waterproof coat
- Sun hat/cap

If sun protection is necessary, please apply liberally before school.

It is preferred that children do not bring large bags into school as storage is limited to their lockers.

### Volunteers

We are always very grateful for the time given to us by volunteers. If you, or anyone you know, would like to volunteer in school to support activities such as forest schools or listening to children read please get in touch with us.

### Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club will continue to operate in the dining room, to allow classrooms to get set up and ready for the day ahead, which can be found at the end of Class 1's outside area.

3.15 Club will operate in the hall, but make the most of time outside too. When collecting children please ring the doorbell at the main door near the office.

Clubs will begin on Wednesday 8.9.2021

Breakfast Club Opening time: 7.30 a.m. till school begins Monday to Friday Available to: all children attending school Cost: £5 per session	3.15 Club Opening times: end of the school day till 5.15 p.m. Monday to Thursday Available to: children in reception and above Cost: £6 per session If children would like a snack, they should bring their own with them.
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The club is currently being run by a variety of staff who have kindly offered to do additional hours as we have not yet been successful in recruiting new staff members. If you know anyone who would be interested in joining our staff team and delivering after school care, please direct them to the following links:

[Afterschool Club Assistant - Sharow CE Primary School | North Yorkshire County Council](#)

[Afterschool Club Supervisor - Sharow Church of England School | North Yorkshire County Council](#)

### School routines

We no longer need to stagger the start and end of the day. All children are welcome to arrive from 8.40a.m., ready for school to begin at 8.50a.m.

We found that when the children come straight into the classroom, they are much calmer, and the day starts promptly.

Class 1	Through the front door of the classroom
Class 2	Through the back door through the Early Years outdoor area

Class 3	Through the main hall door
Class 4	Through the main door near the school office
Class 5	Through the main door near the school office

At the end of the day, children will be reunited with you at 3.15pm.

Class 1	Through the front door of the classroom
Class 2	From under the shelter.
Class 3	Through the main hall door
Class 4	Through the main door near the school office
Class 5	Through the classroom door onto the playground.

### **Learning and routines**

Remember to look at the class pages on the school website where you can find out about the learning for this term. timetables, termly overview, home learning expectations and regular updates on class activities.

Home learning will continue to be shared on Teams.

### **Preparing children for returning to school**

Continue to talk openly with your child about how they are feeling; remember we are here to support you, so please contact your child's teacher or myself if you need any help or have any questions.

Help reinforce messages about good hygiene and handwashing.

We were able to arrange time for the children to meet their new teachers during the summer term, but it was not possible for them to visit their new classrooms. They may be feeling a little nervous about returning to school and what it will be like now. Please share parts of this information with your child so that they have some understanding of what school will be like when they return.

If you have any concerns, please get in touch with us now so that we can work together to find solutions.

We look forward to being together again.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jacqui Palmer  
Executive Headteacher