

Update 20th July - School Organisation September 2020 - Part 2

Dear parents/carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you everyone for their continued support and patience during the last few months. The staff are extremely proud of all the children, those who have been at home along with those that have been present in school. Everyone is very much looking forward to having the school full of children, 'normal' school life returning and teaching happening for most in the classroom.

I would like to recognise and thank the staff team for their hard work and commitment, particularly over the last few months as everyone has pulled together to work in a different way with many staff being deployed into different roles.

Goodbye to Year 6

Although not the traditional events to mark Year 6 moving on, I hope that we have provided opportunities for children to feel valued and be able to reflect on their time at Newport. All Year 6 children should be proud of their achievements and contributions they have made. Final goodbyes will be made tomorrow at their picnic as we wish them well as they move onto their next chapters.

Important Actions – COVID 19 test:

If your child has been attending school in the last few weeks and they develop any COVID 19 symptoms and take a test in the period up to the 28th July, please inform the school office via email as soon as possible and prior to test results being received back.

Minimising the risk of Infection

Many of the actions already in place to will continue to be implemented in September. These will include:

- Regular handwashing by children and adults
- Class groupings **not** mixing during the day – keeping to single class groupings also means that in the event of a positive COVID 19 case only that class group will be required to isolate
- Social distancing – this will not be the expectation between children in class groups
- Daily deep cleaning of all areas and a lunchtime clean of classroom surfaces
- Seating arrangements in classrooms that ensure minimal face to face contact between children
- COVID 19 food preparation guidance is adhered to in the school kitchen with staff wearing masks and visors for preparation and serving. A Perspex screen is in place at the serving area
- Staggered break and lunch times with outside areas zoned off for individual classes to be used
- Reduced numbers of children eating in the hall. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will eat in the hall, with remaining year groups eating in their classrooms.
- Only essential visitors on site
- Guidance will be taken from Public Health England South West if there are any suspected COVID 19 cases and they support the actions that the school takes

The school's current COVID 19 risk assessment will be updated to reflect the new government guidance for September and prior to September placed on the school website.

Face Coverings:

The government's current guidance does not require pupils to wear face coverings at school. Pupils may wear a suitable self - provided face covering for most activities, but may be asked to remove the face covering to participate in activities such as PE and to eat their lunch.

The face covering should be plain, named and in keeping with school uniform.

The safe management of the face covering will be the responsibility of each child/young person and parents are encouraged to provide a clean bag to place it in whilst undertaking activities such as PE or eating lunch.

September Curriculum

For the first few weeks of term, the learning theme for all children will be 'New Beginnings' using the ideas and texts from The Book of Hopes. Children will be returning to school all having had different learning experiences. Teachers will be focusing on personalising learning for all children so whatever their starting points are, they will be provided with opportunities matched to their needs. Seesaw will continue to be used to support home learning activities, become your child's reading record and also used to share your child's outcomes in class. You have played a big part in your child's learning for the last few months and we recognise the value of keeping this link with home, not only so that you can see the progress your child is making, but also if there is a move to learning from home again.

Whilst planning for the learning in the classroom, a full online curriculum is being put together in the event of further lock downs. Teachers will also be prepared to offer education inline with the classroom for children that continue to be directed to shield or return to shielding and for any children that are required to isolate.

Extra Curricular

Swimming: It is unlikely that swimming lessons will resume this term.

Residential Visits: Guidance for September states that overnight residential visits must not take place during the Autumn term. With current uncertainty and additional financial stresses for families, residential visits have not been booked in for the academic year 20/21. However, plans are being made to book these in for 21/22 with consideration of the valuable opportunities missed and also a longer period of time over which payments can be made.

Day Trips: There are no day drips planned for at least the first half term

Music Lessons: Individual lessons will be able to continue in September. A risk assessment will be carried out between the school and music teacher to ensure that guidelines are adhered to and detailed on the whole school COVID 19 risk assessment. Music teachers will contact you directly if you wish for your child to continue with lessons. If you would like your child to start an individual music lesson please email the school office in September for further details.

Seesaw Online Learning Platform

Thank you for supporting your child with the learning activities provided through Seesaw and participation in 'live guided sessions'. A move into lockdown again will see an increase in 'live sessions for children and an increased expectation for children participation. **Seesaw will close for children and staff on Tuesday 21st July at 3pm.** It will be re-opened for children to access their new year groups on Tuesday 1st September.

My Child At School

Contact details

Please take some time to check the contact details that are held for your child are correct. It is important that there are at least 3 people that can be contacted in an emergency. One of the contacts needs to live outside of the family home.

Permissions

There is a section to state the permissions you would like to give regarding use of your child's image and video on My Child at School and this will be live from the end of this week. Previously these have been completed by paper when your child has joined the school. Please now complete these by September. These can be changed at any point and the school will be alerted to the changes.

Leaps and Bounds

If you have requested a place for Before or After school club provision, you will be contacted tomorrow with further details. A reorganisation has taken place and the number of places available has been increased.

School Dinners

All children in Reception to Year 2 are able to have a funded school dinner as part of universal free school meals. For children in years 3 to 6 and the Nursery, who are not entitled to a free school meal the charge for a meal is remaining at £2.35 Please see the Autumn term menu attached.

Payment for meals are to be made in advance through 'My Child At School'. Automatic reminders are set to advise you when there is a zero balance.

If you have any outstanding payments to be made for school meals and the current after school provision from this term, along with any historic balance for school meals, Leaps and Bounds and Nursery, please arrange for these payments to be made as soon as possible.

The school office will be closed from 5pm on 21st July until the 3rd September.

Diary Dates

First day of Term: Monday 7th September

Half term: Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

Non-pupil day: Monday 7th December

End of term: Friday 18th December

Nursery visit day: Friday 4th September (pre-booked appointments)

New Reception and Year 1: Transition session – Friday 4th September

On behalf of all the staff at Newport, I wish everyone well over the summer break. We are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Yours sincerely

Annette Yates

Headteacher