

Newington CE Primary School



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Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

I hope that everyone has had a lovely summer and has managed some family activities as lockdown restrictions have been slowly lifted. Staff have been busy during the summer planning and I've been updating policies and risk assessments along with reading and rereading the government guidance for schools. But it was lovely to actually welcome the children back today and the school is buzzing!

The start of a new year is always exciting and nerve-wracking and this year is no different. However, the children seem to have taken everything in their stride and those who were with us in the summer term have helped their classmates learn our new ways of working.

I have created several documents to provide information for staff and parents. These have all been put on the federation website on our coronavirus information page. Please have a look if you want to find out about what we are doing. The 'Information for parents' contains FAQs.

I've included a few reminders below from the newsletter that went out in the summer term and the children will come home today with another paper copy (the only paper we'll be sending home) of our drop off and pick up arrangements so that everyone arrives at the right time and stands in the right place. I expect we will just get the hang of the staggered start and then the requirement for distancing between bubbles will stop!

I will be dividing my time between both schools daily until the new routines are established so I look forward to seeing you all at some point.

Kind regards

Tara Deevoy

(Executive Headteacher)



KINDNESS

PERSEVERANCE

RESPECT

HONESTY

Welcoming

Generous

Forgiving

Flourishing

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MORNING AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

Our morning club, overseen by Mrs Kent, will be running from 7th September as usual. This starts at 8am and pupils should continue to be dropped to the main hall door. As we need to organize bubbles and social distancing, please **let us know at least the day before** if your child will be attending. This club will continue to cost just £1 per morning and is payable on the day or in advance if attending all week. Please bring correct money for the pot, as we will not be handling cash or giving change. Numbers are limited so please book as far in advance as possible.



While the after-school wrap around care based at Lower Halstow is suspended for Newington pupils, Tetitia (the company who run it) have offered to employ additional staff to offer an after school club at Newington until 4.30 each day with pupils divided into phase bubbles. Priority will be given to children who are usually collected each day and taken to Lower Halstow by the Tetita transport. This club will continue until we can begin running after school clubs in our hall again. Numbers will be limited to enable social distancing and pre-booking is essential. Please email Tetita directly to register and book a place.

tetitachildcare@gmail.com

PE KIT - CHANGES

From September pupils will need to **wear their PE kit to school with their school jumper on PE days.** Changing in classrooms is not possible while ensuring people's belongings do not touch or pupils do not bump into each other. PE will initially be undertaken outside, so **we have added PLAIN black or grey jogging bottoms or leggings to our PE kit list.** This will extend the outdoor PE season. Pupils are welcome to wear their plain black or Blue PE shorts to school on warmer PE days.

Your child will be told their PE days on the first day back and a message will be sent home on PING to tell you the days they should wear their kit. These will also be posted on the school website for reference. **Please do not send in a PE kit.**

Please ensure that jumpers are clearly named, as these will no doubt be discarded all over the place once they warm up outside!

UNIFORM REMINDERS

We are now back to wearing full school uniform again. School shoes should be **plain black.** No logos, fur or coloured stripes. Hair should be tied back. This really helps us keep the 'little visitors' away!

Please remember that only small **stud** earrings are allowed and pupils must be able to remove these for PE. If your child arrives at school with hooped earrings, they will be asked to remove them.

If you don't wish to buy logoed items from Forsters or School Trends, then most supermarkets stock our royal blue school colour. **Please do not buy navy as this is not our uniform.**

WHAT CAN COME INTO SCHOOL?

- Please ensure your child has coat or hat as appropriate for the weather as we will continue to learn outside whenever possible.
- Pupils need to bring in a snack for breaktime. The school fruit programme has not yet restarted and KS2 tuck shop cannot run until restrictions are lifted. Please do not send chocolate or sweets as these will be removed. Fruit or savoury snacks only. No crisps at break please (save these for lunchtime).

Water bottles

- Pupils need to bring their own clearly named water bottle – any bottles with juice will be emptied and replaced with water **so please only send water in**. Juice cartons, squash etc. can continue to be included in packed lunches as usual.

Ruc Sacks

- **Pupils should not bring rucksacks to school.** Reading and contact book should be in a book bag or small 'drawstring style' rucksack with lunchboxes and water bottles carried separately if needed. For those pupils who require a change of clothing for 'accidents' please put this in a named carrier bag that can be kept in school until needed.

No other items are permitted in YR-5. All equipment will be provided by the school.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Those who returned to school before the summer will have seen and returned the new temporary home school agreement and code of conduct that schools were required to introduce. These are on the school website on our covid page for your reference. These new rules are to ensure everyone's safety and children who have returned to us have been able to follow them with no problems.

Please be assured that I will continue to make sure that systems, processes and my expectations are clear to enable Mr Krafft and the rest of the staff to focus on bringing joy and learning to the classrooms. In fact 'joy and learning' are expectation number 2! (Safety is always number 1).