

Everybody Prepared and Inspired to be the Best we can be.
Excellent Relationships.
Excellent Classrooms.
Hearts in Billingham and Eyes on the World.



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Re-opening School to all Pupils on 8th March

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to be welcoming all our children back on 8th March.

CURRICULUM

Our priorities for catch up are Reading, Writing and Maths. However, we also feel the children need to have fun and play with their friends. There will be more PE activities. We will also help the children to address any emotional difficulties they may have experienced due to lockdown. Of all our values, "Happiness" is always the most important.

SAFETY MEASURES

The guidelines for schools have not changed so all arrangements within school regarding COVID management, bubbles, cleaning and everything else are remaining the same.

You will need to continue to notify school, as before, of any positive cases within your home. We will still close bubbles and return to remote learning if we get notification of a case within a bubble. Schools and families must continue to engage with Test and Trace.

COMMUNICATION

You can see that it remains crucial to engage with School Ping, our website and Facebook to keep yourselves informed of school events. The government are reviewing procedures in school every five weeks so I hope that as cases reduce, there will be gradually more freedoms for the children. It's so important that you keep yourselves informed by using School PING, Facebook or our website.

COLLECTION

I have attached a list of new collection and pick up times for children. Some of these have changed. This is because we want to iron out some logistical difficulties we had last term. We didn't change them at the time so as to not inconvenience families with a sudden change. Lockdown has enabled me to change the times so school systems work even better.

One key change is that IF you arrive late with your child, you must go home and return at 9 45 to the back gate. This will reduce the risk of cross-contamination between other groups who come to that gate. Being on time is crucial and remember that our times are set by our school clocks. If you arrive late one day, you are likely to be late every day unless you alter your routine.

If you are dropping off siblings and there is absolutely no way that you can get the children to their drop off gates in time, you should contact myself or Mrs Hendy via e-mail.



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UNIFORM

Because we want to do plenty of PE and play, children should come in school PE kit every day. This can include their normal school jumper or their PE hoodie. I know that children may “prefer” their favourite football kit but part of “catch up” has to be getting into proper routines and disciplines and I would ask for children to wear their black school tracksuits. For hygiene reasons, please ensure that the white/sky blue tee shirt underneath is changed each day. Trainers and plimsolls can be worn. Please try to spend the next week training children who can’t do laces to do them up.

Y6 children will be able to get their leavers hoodies early this year. We will send details as soon as we have them.

Otherwise your child should bring the MINIMUM to school: coat, water bottle, book bag and reading book. Everything else will be provided. They should also bring welly boots back if they took them home.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Over the next three weeks, we will be assessing children to get to know any gaps in their learning. This will include some tests (administered sensitively). Teachers will then put together the curriculum children need to help them fill the gaps in their learning. We will hold parent consultations early next term to let you know how your child is doing and how you can help.

I-PADS

If you have been lent a school device to assist with remote learning these should be returned on Monday 8th March to your child’s class teacher.

LUNCHES

Lunches will carry on as they were before lockdown. Any children not bringing their own lunch will get a choice of hot or cold to eat in classrooms.

CATCH-UP

Academic catch up is important for children and with skilled, sensitive teaching they will catch up over time. We will work in partnership with secondary schools for older children to achieve this too. But catch-up is also about the many other things children have missed: playing and having fun with their friends, spending time in the fresh air, feeling a bit of freedom and much more besides. Our school is about catching up in every possible way. Our community is about working in partnership to achieve that.

Our children are wonderful people. Working together we will help them to catch up on everything they’ve missed.

We’re looking forward to seeing them all again on Monday 8th March.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Squire

