



Wearhead Primary School

wearhead@durhamlearning.net www.wearhead.durham.sch.uk
Headteacher: Tim Hiley - B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

*"THE SMALL SCHOOL WITH THE BIG HEART"
"El Colegio más pequeño con el corazón más grande."*



Wearhead Warrior

Working together to support each other

Issue 21 – Friday 25th September

We have been delighted to have everyone back in school this week after some early autumn colds and coughs kept some children at home. We know that we are entering another challenging time over the next few months as the new lockdown measures come into force across the country but you can remain certain that we will be making sure we all work hard to stick to our health and hygiene routines in school to help keep everyone safe and illness free.

Circus Skills

We were delighted to welcome Kaveh, from the Highlights Creative Engagement Programme, into school on Thursday this week, (virtually via Zoom,) who led a really fun circus skills workshop for the Junior children. This project will continue for the next few weeks and at the moment is focused on three ball juggling. He makes it look so easy!!

Please have a look at the website to see a selection of fantastic photos from the afternoon.

Mr Hopper – Please see the website for photographs – The theme was Trees.

Outdoor Clothing for Playtimes

It is starting to get quite cold, windy and wet during our playtimes and lunchtimes but we do like to get outside if at all possible. Can you please ensure that the children have appropriate warm and waterproof clothing and footwear in school every day.

NHS Guidance on Obtaining Coronavirus tests.

Please see the attached letter from the NHS containing useful information about testing for children under 16. We do have a small number of test kits in school for parents who are unable to get a test through the normal procedures. If you feel that you need to access one please contact school and we will arrange a safe handover or delivery.

Quote for the week

You don't ask a juggler which ball is highest in priority. Success is to do it all.

John Armstrong - Poet

Tim Hiley
Headteacher





Test and Trace

23 September 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

This is an important letter to share some information on how we can work together to make sure we can continue to give children and young people the best education in the safest way possible.

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with Covid-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested.

Therefore, I ask that you all follow these principles:

- You should only book a test if your child has any of these three coronavirus symptoms:
 1. **a high temperature:** any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
 2. **a new continuous cough:** coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 3. **a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste:** a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal
- Your child **does not need a test** if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.
- If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly:
www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/
- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

Wearhead Primary School

Organisation for Working safely During Coronavirus Pandemic Policy

As a result of the work we have done risk assessing our phased reopening we have developed the following policy for the beginning of the Autumn Term 2020. The full risk assessment has been carried out in cooperation with staff, governors and the County Council and a copy is available upon request.

Week Beginning Monday 31st August

Monday	9.00am – 3.20pm
Tuesday	9.00am – 3.20pm
Wednesday	9.00am – 3.20pm
Thursday	9.00am – 3.20pm
Friday	9.00am – 3.20pm

Individual children or family groups will have a specified time to arrive and depart around the times identified above. Parents will be notified individually of their start/end times and asked to stick to them as closely as possible.

General

- There will be hand sanitiser (min 70% alcohol gel) stations in the following locations.
 - Main Entrance
 - Children's Entrances
 - Cloakroom
 - Each classroom
- All doors in school (except external doors) will be kept open to minimise need to use handles
- The water fountain will be disconnected and not used, children are asked to bring reusable water bottle from home each day
- Children can wear school uniform however, on days when the Junior children have PE they are asked to come to school in their PE kits so they do not need to get changed. (PE will generally be outside as long as the weather is suitable).
 - Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.
- Appropriate cleaning (anti-bac/viral) products will be available in each classroom, the hall, library and staffroom at all times, along with appropriate cleaning materials and PPE.
- Windows will be kept open wherever possible to allow for adequate flowing ventilation.
- No more than one child / (family group) and one adult may be in the cloakroom area at any one time. Class 1 member of staff will check this area before allowing a child to go through to the toilet, lunch or to prepare for the end of the day.
- There will be one bubble which includes all the children however, these will be split into two learning 'Groups' and one member of staff with responsibility for each group.
- Members of staff will have an individual walkie-talkie in each room to communicate with the office and each other.
- Children will not be sent to the office or other rooms with messages, registers etc.
- Communal Rooms
 - Library – Available for staff to select resources if needed
 - School Office – Mrs Hayes AM / Mr Hiley PM

- Staffroom – Staff may use the staff room collectively observing safe practices and social distancing. Cleansing material for kettle, fridge etc to be available at all times.
- Hall – Tables to be set up and left in place and allocated to individual children or Family group.
- Assemblies will restart with the children sitting at their distanced lunchtime table. (There will be no singing in assembly.)
- Photocopier – Will only be used by one member of staff at a time and there will be anti-bacterial wipes to clean keypad after use.
- Toilets – The two toilets will be operational from September for toileting and handwashing however there will still only be one person/family group allowed in either toilet at any one time. The toilets will be thoroughly cleaned twice a day
- Quarantine Room (QR) – Boys Toilet – This will only come into action if necessary and will be thoroughly cleaned before use. Should the QR need to be used, the girls’ toilet will be used by boys and girls individually with the middle cubicle remaining blocked off. Children will only ever visit the toilet one at a time or as part of a family group.
- It will be necessary for staff to pass through Class 1 or 2 at certain times. When this is unavoidable, it should be done observing social distancing and minimising any touch or interaction with furniture and resources.
- The following areas will be marked with appropriate spacing markers;
 - Outside carpark at big gate / Main Entrance
 - Children’s entrance and full length of internal corridor
 - Hall serving hatch when needed
 - Playground outside door

Arrival at School

- Children will arrive with ONE parent at designated time and wait at a designated distance marker.
- School transport children
 - Please note children using school transport will be required to wear a face-mask throughout the journey in line with new regulations for public transport.
 - Disembark bus in given order and line up and wait at distance markers ready to be invited into school
- Children will enter school via the main playground door.
- Children will be dropped off at the large green gate by the main entrance. They will be sent around to the main playground door individually or in a family group.
- Member of staff will invite each child/family group into school who will;
 - Go to cloakroom and hang their belongings on designated pegs
 - Change into indoor shoes
 - Go to toilet and wash their hands thoroughly
 - Go and sit in their designated place in classroom with their packed lunch box if not having school lunch. (This will be kept under their individual table setting.)

Class Organisation

- There will be one school bubble with two class ‘Groups.’ (Infant & Junior)
- One adult will be responsible for each class group however, more than one adult will work with learning groups during the week;
 - Class 1 – Mrs Halliley (Wed/Thur) Mrs Turnbull (Mon/Tue/Fri)
 - Class 2 – Mrs Corbett
- Designated spaces will be planned for each child or family group within each classroom with a minimum of 1m spacing (marked on floor if appropriate) and will include

- Cleaning materials where appropriate
- Writing and stationary supplies to prevent need for movement around the classroom or sharing
- Children's learning groups will be forward facing where possible.
- Registers will be taken electronically using SIMS to eliminate need for paper register
- Children will only be allowed to use toilets one at a time and a sign will indicate if they are free to be used.
- Outside learning will be appropriate but only if socially distanced and safe to do so
- Assembly will still happen twice per week, if technically possible, with children in each class group to attend sitting in their socially distanced lunchtime table places.
- Soft toys and furnishings will be removed from classrooms or marked clearly out of use to prevent potential cross-contamination

Curriculum

- A pared down, quality first curriculum will be offered to the children that supports the limited use of available resources and the need to maintain social distancing.
- Literacy / Numeracy work will be based on the Hamilton Trust packs
- Particular emphasis will be placed on activities to support each child's mental health and wellbeing.
- All work will be organised to keep the use of resources to a minimum and any reusable resources (including toys etc. in Class One) will be thoroughly cleaned between uses.

Break Times / Lunchtimes

- There will be one 10 minute morning break for Class One and Two at 10.15am in the main playground supervised by Mr Hiley. (If it is wet, children will remain with their class teacher. Facilities will be made available for staff comfort breaks)
- There will be individual lunch tables set out for either individual children or family groups in the hall, these will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of lunchtime and remain in situ.
- There will be one lunchtime break on the main playground with appropriate distancing supervised by Mr Hiley &/or Mrs Hayes (If it is wet, children will remain with their class teacher. Facilities will be made available for staff lunch / comfort breaks)
- Any play equipment used during any break will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of each session
- During lunchtime Mrs Martin will perform an interim mid-day clean of classrooms and toilets supported by staff where available.

End of the School Day

- Pupils/Staff will wash their hands before they leave the school site.
- Water bottles and lunch bottles will be taken home from school each day
- Only one Parent/Carer is permitted to collect their child from the school site.
- Children will depart with ONE parent at designated time who will wait at the designated distance marker.
- Parents/Carers to ensure that they follow social distancing.
- Children will be sent into cloakroom to wash hands then collect belongings and go to Mr Hiley at the distance markers at the exit door.
- Children will be handed over to parents from green gate by the main school entrance
- Parents are asked to remain in their cars or at social distance markers until their children are sent to them.
- Parents/Carers directed to leave the school site immediately once they have collected their child.
- Staff will control the flow of pupils leaving the school building to encourage social distancing.
- Gates are secured to the school site.

- Gates and entrance doors will be included in the cleaning regime at the school.

First Aid / Signs of Illness

- If a child needs first aid applying this will be given by a trained member of staff. The member of staff will don appropriate PPE including a mask and gloves before any first aid is applied.
- If a child develops signs or symptoms of illness related to CoVid -19 they will be escorted to the quarantine room (QR) where a member of staff will sit with them at a 2m distance until a parent can come to collect. End of day collection procedures will then apply.
- The only furniture in the QR will be two, wipeable plastic chairs spaced at least 2m apart.
- If the member of staff has to reduce 2m distance for any reason PPE will be worn.
- Once the QR has been vacated a thorough clean will be carried out.
- No more than two people will be in the QR at any time except for emergencies when PPE should be worn.
- School has a small supply of home testing kits which are available in **exceptional circumstances** for families who need a test and cannot access one elsewhere.
- If there are symptoms or a positive case of Covid within a family at home we would ask that you notify school as soon as possible and it is important that your child, (as well as everyone else in your household) stays at home for a minimum of 10 days.
- If there is a positive case of Covid reported, school will liaise with the Local Authority and Public Health England.
 - Appropriate guidance will be followed and could include any of the following,
 - Children/staff who were in close contact with the individual may be asked to self-isolate for 10 days
 - An individual learning group may be asked to self-isolate for 10 days
 - In a worst case scenario the whole school could be closed for self-isolation for a minimum of 10 days.
 - Any children asked to self-isolate will be offered a remote curriculum that will mirror that being offered in school as closely as possible.

Visitors to School including Parents

- No visitors will be allowed into school without first making an appointment
- Authorised visitors will be allowed into the entrance once the welcoming member of staff is behind closed internal door.
- Visitor will use the provided hand gel and wear an appropriate face covering before any further socially distanced contact is made.
- Parents making collections or delivering anything to or from school is discouraged but where necessary all the above protocols will apply.
- All essential parental communication with school should be via phone or email unless an emergency makes this not possible.

