

# DRAYTON COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL

Inclusive Schools Trust  
Partnership Headteacher: Mrs K Winter



'Learning, Caring & Growing Together'

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2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It is with great delight that I am writing to update you about your child's return to school on 8th March. We have missed the children so much and whilst both Tapestry and Seesaw have been amazing, the school has felt very quiet without all of the children here.

As a staff, we would like to thank you for supporting us and not uploading anything onto Tapestry or Seesaw over the half term break. We all feel well rested and ready for an exciting half term.

Please find below all of the information you will need with some updates so that you can refresh your memories about our Covid-19 guidelines in readiness for your return.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the main school office.

## **Reporting absences**

If your child cannot attend school because they are unwell, please contact school at the start of each day and leave a message on the school answer machine.

## **If your child is unwell**

To help us keep the school safe and open, please do not send your child into school if they are feeling ill, even if they show **just one** of the symptoms listed below. If a child is poorly in school and shows any of these symptoms, we will contact parents/carers to come into school to collect them immediately. If you are in any doubt, please look after your child at home. This is to protect the whole school community.

The main symptoms of Covid-19 are:

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Children who show any of the main symptoms of Covid-19 **must be** tested for the virus. Children who are symptomatic will not be allowed back into school until they have been tested for Covid-19.



## **Attendance**

All children should be in school from 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. unless they are classed as clinically extremely vulnerable. However, we do understand and we know that for some families this time will not be easy. If you are worried about your child coming back to school and you feel you would like support, please contact the school office. We are here to help and we will support you where necessary.

## **Organisation of school day**

### **Travelling to school**

Please be mindful of government guidance regarding who can travel together in a car. We would also advise you walk where possible and with members of your **own** family. If your child cycles to school, they can store their bike under the cover. Please note only **one** child at a time should be in the bike shed.

### **Start and end times to the day**

Start and end times to the day will remain the same as before the current lockdown.

### **Dragonfly & Hedgehog 8:45-2:45**

### **Mouse, Mole & Fox 1 8:35- 2:45**

### **Year 2 8:35-3:00**

Please note there is flexibility in the pick-up time for Year 2 with a window from 2:50-3:00. The school day is starting 10 minutes earlier than before COVID-19. Therefore, this gives us flexibility at the end of the day to support parents who are picking up from the Junior school, and to reduce crowding at pick up time which supports and protects our school community.

Please ensure that you wait outside of your child's classroom and that you arrive and leave promptly to reduce crowding outside of the classrooms.

### **Drop off/pick up point**

More information will be sent out separately via Tapestry/Seesaw for each class.

### **Remembering the one-way system is critical to the safety of the whole school community going forward. Please ensure that you follow this system, which is enabling all families/carers to follow social distancing.**

When you drop your child off at the start of the day a member of the classes teaching team will ask you if your child is well, it is **essential** that you answer honestly to keep everyone safe. Due to Covid-19 guidance unless your child is in Reception we are **not** able to take your child from you in the morning therefore, if your child is too distressed and will not come into the classroom you will have to take them home. At the end of the day your child will be sent out to you one at a time. Please leave the school premises as soon as you collect your child so other parents are able to collect their children and to prevent crowding and queueing.

We ask you to be on time for both drop off and pick up, as late arrivals will be difficult to manage whilst following all of our procedures to keep the whole community safe.

**We would appreciate it if only one parent comes into the school playground when bringing your children to school. Please maintain social distancing at all times.**

There are staggered break and lunch times too so there are as few children on the playground as possible.

### **Facemasks**

We would like all Parents/Carers who enter the school site to wear a face covering. We will also be wearing face coverings/visors when we welcome your children into school. This request is to keep your children, your families and our staff safe. It is also in line with many other schools in Norfolk.

### Playground Equipment

The playground climbing equipment **will not be in use**, before school, after school and during the school day. We will put barrier tape around it to indicate this. This is because the guidance around play equipment is complex and we want to eliminate the risk of transmission of Covid-19 as much as possible.

### Parents in school

Unfortunately, we are not allowing parents to come into school, apart from the entrance lobby. This goes against our usual way of working but I am sure you can understand why. We need to have as few people in the building as possible.

### What can my child bring to school?

Your child can bring their book bag, lunchbox and water bottle. If your child is bringing their own lunchbox it must be taken into the classroom with your child. Please could all children have their own spare clothes. We are unable to provide spare clothes for children. It must be in a plastic bag and it can be left in school.

### Uniform

Children will be expected to wear school uniform. This does not need to be washed every day but a high standard of personal hygiene will be expected to ensure we keep everyone as safe as we can.

### Lunchtimes

We continue to offer our full menu in school which you are able to choose using Pupil Asset. However, your child can bring a packed lunch if they prefer. Please refer to the menu 'Week 1' for w/c 8<sup>th</sup> March. The full menu and how to order lunch using the Pupil Asset are on the school website.

### Parent Support Advisor – Mrs. Lake

Our Pastoral Support Assistant, Mrs. Lake will continue to work hard to support parents. Please email her directly [psadrayton@istnorfolk.co.uk](mailto:psadrayton@istnorfolk.co.uk) if you have any queries or need any help.

### Safeguarding children

Safeguarding arrangements in school will remain the same with a few heightened responsibilities to meet the demands of the current situation. The six Designated Safeguarding Leads are Mrs. Winter, Miss Humphrey, Mrs Arnold, Mrs. Lake, Mrs. Maskell and Mrs. Loveridge.

### Curriculum

We will continue to offer a broad and balanced curriculum for all children. With the continuation of Seesaw in KS1 and Tapestry in Reception, we are able to communicate with all of our families remotely. Please use these online portals to find all your Home Learning and Learning if you or your child is self-isolating. Outdoor learning will be a priority. We are fortunate with such a lot of space in school and outside. There will be some differences to the curriculum but we will still teach all subjects in a creative way as usual.

### Assembly

We continue to have no assemblies together in the school hall. Class assemblies will take place regularly.

### Trips

There are still no trips planned for this term.

### PE

**Please remember to send your child to school in PE kit on the days they are doing PE.** This will ease congestion in the cloakroom with PE bags and will ensure children are not spreading themselves and their clothes out when changing. Your child's class teacher will put a reminder onto Seesaw/Tapestry this week of your child's PE days.

### Reading

We will continue to change books **once a week** in class. Once books have been handed back in they will have 72hrs isolation period before returning to the class bookshelf. If you would like further reading resources please look on our website, social media pages and/or Tapestry and Seesaw.



### **Supporting children's mental health.**

A big part of our curriculum will be supporting children's mental health. This will be planned on a week by week basis.

### **Phonics and Reading Cafes**

These won't take place until guidance changes. We will make sure we support you and inform you of how we teach phonics and Reading. Please keep an eye out on the school website, social media, Seesaw and Tapestry for support.

### **Cleaning**

Cleaning staff have been fully informed and guided on how to clean effectively and according to the guidance. Thorough cleaning is built into each day's schedule. This schedule remains ongoing.

### **How can the children and families help to reduce the risks?**

- 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' message reinforced.
- Excellent personal hygiene.
- Handwashing at transition times.
- Understanding the symptoms and what to do if they feel unwell

### **Social distancing**

The staff continue to lead by example. They stay 2m apart where possible and model it to the children. Children are not expected to stay 2m apart but awareness of space will be essential and reminders will be given to children. We ask parents to social distance on the school playground. Desks will be forward facing where appropriate. Class staff will work next to a child, with some distance, rather than face to face.

Limited, well-spaced resources will be set out in the classrooms and the spacing of children is monitored. In KS1 children use only the stationery provided in their tray on their workstation. In Reception, all equipment has been risk assessed and continues to be cleaned more frequently than normal.

### **Breakfast/After School Clubs**

More information will be sent out separately to parents/carers of registered children.

A huge thank you for your ongoing support during these very tricky times. If you need any further support or guidance please contact the school office, [officedrayton@istnorfolk.co.uk](mailto:officedrayton@istnorfolk.co.uk).

Kind regards,

Karen Winter  
Partnership Headteacher