



*Nurturing Children to Succeed and Achieve*

**Moorside  
Primary School and Nursery**  
Harrogate Road  
Ripon  
HG4 1SU

**Headteacher:** Mrs C Rowett

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well and feel rested after a long summer break.

We plan to fully reopen Moorside Primary School and Nursery from Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020, in line with the Department for Education's instruction.

The period of school closure has brought its challenges and I would like to begin by thanking you all for your support and patience during these unprecedented times. I would also like to particularly thank you for the effort you have put into supporting your children at home with their learning. We will be so pleased to welcome all our children back to school, as we have missed them all so much. We look forward to welcoming our new children to Team Moorside too!

All children will be welcomed back from Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September (start times and entry points are noted later in this update).

I understand that many of you will still have concerns. In my letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> July, I shared many of the changes that we have had to make to adhere to government guidelines, as well as keep the staff and children as safe as possible and prevent the spread of germs. We have reviewed and updated the Risk Assessment, which can be found on our website, in accordance with the most up to date Local Authority and Government requirements and guidance.

The guidance states that:

Schools must comply with health and safety law, which requires them to assess risks and put in place proportionate control measures. Schools should thoroughly review their health and safety risk assessments and draw up plans for the autumn term that address the risks identified using the system of controls set out below. These are an adapted form of the system of protective measures that will be familiar from the summer term. Essential measures include:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace

**Tel:** 01765 604208

**Email:** [admin@moorside-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@moorside-pri.n-yorks.sch.uk)



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- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

How contacts are reduced will depend on the school's circumstances and will (as much as possible) include:

- grouping children together
- avoiding contact between groups
- arranging classrooms with forward facing desks
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible

Following the guidance above, we have published our full risk assessment for wider opening on our website, which details the following protocols that we have put in place:

- The children will be in 'bubble groups' which will not mix throughout the day. These have been organised as:

Bubble 1: Nursery and Reception

Bubble 2: Years 1 and 2

Bubble 3: Years 3 and 4

Bubble 4: Years 5 and 6

Breaktimes and lunchtimes will be staggered so that bubbles do not come into contact with each other. Moving around school will be kept to a minimum and where possible this will happen externally. *This is to avoid contact between groups.*

- All children need to be in full uniform in September. Please see our website for further details about what is required: <https://www.moorsideschools.org.uk/school-uniform/>  
*It is recommended that this is washed as frequently as possible.*

- Children will generally not need to bring things into school apart from a coat, a named water bottle and Moorside book bag. They will not need a rucksack. *Book bags are important to protect their reading books (the FOMS have supported us in investing £1500 for new books). Reading books will be sent home on a Monday and returned on a Thursday to be quarantined for 72 hours before redistribution.*

- We will inform you of the children's PE days in the first week back in learning letters. They will need to come into school in the appropriate kit on those days, wearing their school



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sweatshirt or cardigan. *Children will not be getting changed in school to reduce the spread of germs with limited items moving between home and school.*

\*There will be exceptions in KS1 and the Early Years if children get wet.

- Reception, Nursery, Y2, Y5 and Y6 will be doing Forest school in September until half term. They will need to wear their Forest school clothes into school on those days - we will be storing waterproofs and wellies on a frame outside under shelter. Y2, 5 and 6 will have Forest school on a Wednesday and Nursery/Reception on a Friday.

- Buddies will be running but we are making some adjustments to the location for some children, so that bubble groups do not mix. *You will be directed to the appropriate door on arrival at the usual Buddies entrance on Tuesday 8th. Please see Mrs Pawley's letter on the school website with further details and register on the usual form.*

- All Children in Years 1-6 will need a NAMED water bottle, which will be stored on their desk and this will be washed in school. Children in the Early Years will be provided with their own plastic cup which we will name for them. These will be washed daily.

- Children who have a packed lunch will need to bring a disposable one – no packed lunch boxes. *This is to prevent items going to and from different environments.*

- We will send details out to you about how clubs such as Wildlife Warriors will be run in September.

- Children in Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 will need a spare set of clothes to be stored in a small, soft sided named bag (not a rucksack), which will stay in school for the half term. *This is to prevent large numbers of items going to and from different environments.*

- Children in Nursery and Reception will need a set of named waterproofs and wellies, which will be kept on their peg in school. They can use these for Forest school on a Friday too.

- Children in Years 1-6 will have their own stationery pack, which will be cleaned in school daily so please do not provide pencil cases.

*This is to prevent the sharing of equipment as much as possible, ease of regular cleaning and limit the moving of resources to and from environments.*

- Lunches will be served in classrooms for Years 1-6. Children in Years 3-6 can choose their lunch from the menu daily. For the first week only, children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 will be given Option 1 (hot meal) unless you email the office by Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September to request a



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sandwich. The menus for the following week for parent selection will be emailed by the end of the first week. Children who are entitled to free school meals will continue to receive a school lunch at no charge. If you are not sure or think you may now be eligible for this funding because your circumstances have changed please contact the school office.

If your child has an allergy that we are not aware of please let the school office know asap.

Due to the need to social distance (following government guidelines), we have staggered the start/end times of the day for family groups. I would really appreciate your patience and co-operation to allow everyone to enter and exit school in the safest possible manner and not stay on the playground once you have delivered your child(ren) safely to the allocated entrances. You will receive your child's start and finish time in a separate email and families will be put into one of the following groups:

Groups	Start/finish
A	8.30-3.00pm
B	8.45-3.15pm
C	9.00-3.30pm

Entrances:

Nursery - Nursery entrance next to Whitcliffe Grove Gate

Reception- Entrance next to our Buddies Provision (you will be directed from the Lead Lane Gate on day 1)

Y1 and Y2 - The Key Stage 1 entrance next to the Lead Lane Gate.

Y3 and Y4 - The entrance from the playground next to our main Reception

Y5 and 6 (only) via classroom fire doors. These will be the only year groups who will not line up each morning.

Children will leave school via the same door as they entered.

You cannot use the school car park or drive up the main drive, as this puts pedestrians at risk. This area is for staff parking only. We realise that this may be inconvenient for some parents, however I cannot emphasise enough that the safety of our pupils, parents and staff is paramount.

Please adhere to social distancing rules for everybody's safety. These are very busy times of the day. I ask that you drop your child off at their door and leave the premises as soon as possible via the allocated route to allow people to be able to social distance.



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Below are a few of the changes and protocols, in line with the DfE guidance for the reopening of schools, which will help you prepare your child for the new school year.

#### Start of the day:

The children (other than Y5 and Y6) will line up on their designated playground and enter school in staggered groups to wash their hands. Each class will have 2 hand sanitising stations. Please contact the school offices with any messages for teachers on the day or make a phone call to Mrs Price with any concerns about your child's wellbeing. We will not be able to take messages on the door.

#### Keeping Safe in School

Wherever possible:

In the classroom children will have their own set of equipment/stationery which will be cleaned daily. Tables and equipment will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. Children will wash hands regularly throughout the day and will be taught about respiratory hygiene.

Key Stage bubbles will be adhered to for lunchtime and playtime. They also have allocated toilets for their bubbles. These bubbles will not mix with other bubbles.

Assemblies will take place via Zoom, so that bubble groups do not mix together.

Children will not gather in groups any larger than their key stage bubbles for sports activities, Forest school and playtimes.

Teachers and Teaching Assistants will work within bubbles wherever possible to minimise the risk of cross infection.

Children's desks are facing forwards in Years 1-6.

If you, your child or any member of your household is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 (a high temperature, a new continuous cough, loss of taste or smell) then you must not come to school but must immediately seek a test. Please inform school as soon as possible of the outcome so that we can take any necessary steps in keeping everyone safe.

If we suspect that a child has a temperature, we will monitor this in school with a thermometer scanner and contact you if we are concerned.

You can find information about how to request a test for COVID-19

at [https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus?gclid=EAlaIQobChMIpdPY66zP6gIVVOvtCh2IrQtgEAAYASA\\_AEgKK6\\_D\\_BwE](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus?gclid=EAlaIQobChMIpdPY66zP6gIVVOvtCh2IrQtgEAAYASA_AEgKK6_D_BwE)

Any child displaying symptoms of Coronavirus will be isolated within school until they can be collected by a parent/carer.

Any adult coming into school will have their temperature taken and will be refused entry if it is a concern. There will be no trips involving transport until further notice.

The full risk assessment for school re-opening can be found on our website.



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### Breakfast Club / After School Clubs

Our Buddies breakfast and after school club will be open and working in bubble groups. After school clubs will commence later in September and will be offered to key stage groups, to ensure there is no mixing of bubbles. Information will be sent out in due course about these clubs.

### Parents/Visitors coming into School

If you need to speak to your child's teacher you will need to phone the office who will be able to arrange this.

If you have any concerns or any issues that need resolving please phone the office or email them.

Parents/visitors will only be allowed into the building by appointment. Before entering temperatures will be checked and details recorded in the event that track and trace needs to be implemented. Any person not willing to give this information will not be allowed entry into school.

### The Curriculum and catch up

The main focus of the work that children will be undertaking on returning to school will be on 'recovery curriculum', detailed in our Curriculum Addendum on our website, a document which will work alongside our curriculum plans and overviews.

We will be carrying out some assessments over the next 5-6 weeks to identify specific areas to address and support each child as an individual, both in their education and well-being. Class teachers will contact parents for feedback from home, so that we can work together to support all our pupils in their transition back into school and into their new year groups.

It is a legal requirement for schools to fully reopen on 8<sup>th</sup> September and for children to attend school. I very much look forward to seeing you and all our children in September and would like to thank you again for your patience and understanding, as we work hard to reopen school fully. As you will appreciate in these uncertain times, guidance for schools is continually changing and we will do our best to keep you informed and updated as required. We will send you a further letter with your child(ren)'s start and finish time. Stay safe everyone and enjoy the rest of the Summer holidays.

Best wishes,

Mrs C Rowett  
Headteacher

Mr C Lea  
Chair of Governors