

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021

# — WELCOME — BACK TO SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a lovely Summer break.... It feels like just 5 minutes since we closed for the holidays! The staff at Moorside are ready and raring to go for the new academic year 21-22 and can't wait to welcome everyone back on Tuesday 7th September.

I wanted to share the arrangements for the start of term, and the measures that remain in place following guidance from the Department of Education, to ensure that our school community is safe and our children are receiving an enriching curriculum through high quality teaching.

We are not required to continue with staggered start and finish times so the school day will begin and end at:

**8.50am - 3.20pm for Key Stages 1 and 2**

**8.50am - 3.15pm for Reception**

**8.45am - 3.15pm for Nursery**

Whilst there has been an easing of restrictions nationally, we would encourage parents not to congregate on the school playground at pick up and drop off times to reduce risk.

Please ensure that children are on time so that they do not miss any learning and report any absences as soon as possible to the school office. If your child tests positive for Covid, we will continue to provide remote learning in line with our policy - please specify the reason for an absence from school and whether you are seeking a PCR test for them.

The entrance for Nursery will continue to be at the main hall door.

Reception will use the entrance within the courtyard area opposite the Lead Lane gate.

Years 3-6 will continue to use the fire door entrances to prevent over-crowding in cloakrooms.

Years 1 and 2 will use the Key Stage 1 door as last year.

There will be members of staff available on the first day to direct you, so please do not worry if you are unsure about the locations above.

### **Safety measures and ongoing procedures to prevent the spread of Covid-19**

The current guidance requires close contacts to seek a PCR test and then return to school if it is negative, rather than isolating for 10 days. If we had any outbreaks of Covid in school, we would re-act our contingency (outbreak) management plan, which would involve reintroducing our risk assessment to reduce the transmission of Covid-19.



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An outbreak is identified as:

- 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or
- 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

As part of our regular and consistent practice in school from the beginning of term, children will:

\*Continue to wash their hands on entry/leaving the school site and at regular periods throughout the day.

\*Attend assemblies in key stages to reduce the number of children together in the hall.

\*Years 4-6 will have lunch in classrooms to reduce the number of children and adults in the hall at once.

\*Need the following resources and equipment **ONLY**:

- Years 1-6 require a NAMED water bottle (children in EYFS have named cups).
- A book bag with their reading book which can come into school daily. This will be changed on a Monday and Thursday in EYFS and Key Stage 1 and as and when required in Key Stage 2.
- A coat in cold weather.
- Sun hat/cream in hot weather.
- A packed lunch box - unless they are school dinners.
- Please do not send children with pencil cases, fiddle toys or items from home (for show and tell for example).
- Rucksacks are also not required as children are will need to come to school in their PE kits on PE days and Forest school kit on Forest school days. PE kit is black or navy jogging bottoms, shorts or leggings, a white t-shirt and their Moorside hoodie which they will receive on their first day. They will also need appropriate footwear for outdoor PE. This should not be school shoes.

\*Children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 need a spare set of clothes to stay in school for the half term. These should be in a named bag.

PE days are as follows:

Reception- Mondays (from 20.9.21)

Year 1 - Wednesdays

Year 2 - Mondays and Thursdays

Year 3 - Tuesdays

Year 4 - Tuesdays

Year 5 - Tuesdays and Fridays

Year 6 - Tuesdays





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Forest school until October half term:  
Nursery and Reception - Fridays  
Year 1 - Fridays  
Year 3 - Wednesdays  
Year 4 - Wednesdays  
Year 6 - Wednesdays



If you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please phone or email the school office. They will call you back or respond via email as soon as they can. The start of the day is very busy and the priority is to settle the children into the school day. Our office is open from 8.30am until 4.30pm from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, so if you have any questions or queries about any of the information included in this letter, please do contact us and we would be happy to help.

Please enjoy the last few days of the holidays and we look forward to seeing you next week.

Best wishes,

**Mrs Rowett**  
Headteacher

