



Mount Pleasant Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs Naeem Nazir

Our School Motto - "Think Big, Aim High & Achieve!"

Friday 17th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

RE: COVID 19 Update: Mount Pleasant Primary School – Whole School Reopening

This year has been one of the strangest and most challenging times – globally; I sincerely hope all our families are managing to keep in good spirits and are staying safe.

Year 6 Leavers - I would like to say goodbye and good luck to our Year 6 pupils, they have been truly amazing throughout their time at our school. Whilst they did not have their SATs test in May, we know that based on their February 'Mock Tests' they would have done amazingly well, and our SATs results would have been even better than last year – which were fantastic even then! Year 6, we are so proud of you, and it was great seeing so many of you at the Graduation Ceremony, this week. I wish you all the best in your future and hope to see you again when you have become successful adults – which I know you all will be!

September 2020 - I am sure you will be aware that schools across the country will be fully reopening for ALL children, as normal, in September. This is great news and I have seen from the children and families who have been in touch over recent weeks that whilst home learning has been fun, everyone is looking forward to being back in school.

I am pleased to be able to share with you that we have followed all Government and Local Authority guidance to put stringent systems in place to ensure a safe learning environment in school for all our children, staff and parents.

Whilst we all want a return to normality, you will notice changes to the school days in September which I am sure everyone will appreciate are needed. If, as and when further changes are required, these will be communicated accordingly. For now, I am listing some of the key changes that will be implemented from September:

1. **Bubbles** – As per guidance, children will always remain in their year group bubbles throughout the day. In some of this time, children will be further reduced to class bubbles. At no time will children be mixing with other year groups, whether during the day, during breaktimes or lunchtime.
2. **Lunchtimes** – In order to manage year groups having separate lunchtimes in the dining hall, as well as their own external play-space, we are reducing lunchtimes to 45 minutes. Lunchtimes will be staggered with the youngest

children starting their lunchtime at 11:45 and the oldest children starting at 12:40. We will be serving hot meals as per the normal school-dinners menu – and using both the school halls.

3. **Drop-offs and pick-ups** – Our school times will be reduced by 15 minutes to make up for the shorter lunchtimes. In order to prevent congestion, children will be expected to arrive at 8:45 and can be collected from 3pm. For the morning drop-offs, we will open our gates at 8:30 and then close them again at 8:55 – after which children will be marked as being late. It is **extremely important that everyone arrives to school on time as late arrivals will mean that families have to line-up on the 2-metres social distancing markers outside the Main Office**. As a result, the registering of late comers via the Main Office will obviously take longer than usual, and this will further impact on children missing out on valuable teaching time. To avoid this becoming an issue, parents will have to organise their days and should aim to arrive slightly earlier, rather than be late. For the end of day pick-ups, the gates will open at 2:55pm and close at 3:20pm.

Nursery times will remain the same with Nursery AM running from 8.30 to 11.30 and Nursery PM running from 12.15 to 3.15.

Staff will be available wearing hi-viz jackets and will support and direct parents for drop-offs and pick-ups, as required. However, to make this easy, the drop-off and pick-up locations are listed in the table below:

Year Group	Gate	Road	Location
Nursery-Reception	Nursery Gate	Mount Street	As directed by staff
Year 1	Woodland Gate	Mount Street	As directed by staff
Year 2	Main Entrance Gate	Mount Street	Year 2 class doors
Year 3	Victoria Gate	Victoria Road	Main Hall doors
Year 4	Victoria Gate	Victoria Road	LKS2 Playground
Years 5 & 6	MUGA Gate	Mount Street	MUGA

- We will be reviewing the arrangements set out above and any changes required will be considered over the first week and communicated accordingly.
- The Government's 2-metre social distancing rule must be observed by parents at all times, including as you wait to collect your children.
- In order to maintain social distancing and minimise interactions between different adults and children, please remember that if you have any questions for the teacher, these should be emailed to the class email address or logged by telephoning the School Office. Teachers will not be able to stand and talk unless it is to answer an urgent and brief query.

4. **School Uniform** – From September, all children are expected to wear their school uniform and appropriate PE kits.
5. **Main Entrance** – To reduce the numbers of non-essential people coming into the school building, we will not be inviting any external visitors to the school. Likewise, if any parents have a query, please try to phone the school office in the first instance with your query. You can also email either the school office or your class teacher's email, and we will reply as quickly as possible. If you have an urgent query and you have no alternative option but to come into the Main Entrance to speak to one of our office staff, please adhere to the 2-metre social distancing guidelines and use the clearly marked waiting spots, to be seen. We can only allow a maximum of 4 people into the Main Entrance at any one time. If there is an overflow, you must stand on the waiting spots outside.
6. **Hygiene and Cleaning** – Children will be asked to wash their hands regularly, as per Government guidelines. Each class has been equipped with a sink, hand sanitiser dispenser, soap dispenser, paper towel dispenser for children and staff to use. The classroom will be cleaned twice a day, and we have purchased disposable anti-bacterial wipes to wipe down any surfaces as and when needed throughout the day.
7. **Symptoms and Isolation** – It is extremely important you keep your child at home if they display any symptoms which the NHS has identified to be related to Covid-19. These include: **a temperature, a new and continuous cough or a loss of taste or smell**. Everyone can now apply for a Covid-19 test if they have these symptoms by telephoning 111.
If a child becomes ill with these symptoms during the school day, we will keep them in a separate room until a parent arrives to take them home. A Covid-19 test will need to be booked and if the results are negative and the child is feeling better, they can return to school.
If a child's Covid-19 test returns positive, then the child must continue staying at home and the whole household must self-isolate for 14 days. Likewise, we will also inform all other parents of the children who were in the same bubble and ask that they also keep their child at home for 14 days. The whole household from these families will not need to self-isolate, unless their children also begin to display virus related symptoms. Throughout, we will be working closely with Kirklees Public Health and seek their support and advice.
8. **Items in School** – Children will need to bring their book bag, reading books, homework books and PE kits. KS2 children are required to bring their own water bottle. (Please make sure your child's name is clearly labelled on all items.)
9. **To reduce the handling and use of paper** – Communication will always be via SchoolPing. This may be to individual families (such as a bumped head letter etc) or the whole school (such as an update on the above arrangements). If you have not already done so, can you all please ensure that you install the SchoolPing app onto your phones ASAP. Please telephone the School Office if you need help.

I hope that this provides a good outline for what our school will look like in September. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

For all our families celebrating Eid-ul-Adha in the next few days, I wish you have a wonderful day (early Eid Mubarak!). Please remember Government safety guidance in gatherings and celebrations.

For all our new families starting with us in September in Nursery and Reception, I cannot wait to meet you all. Your children will have an amazing, successful and memorable experience at our school.

I wish everyone all the best, stay safe and look after yourselves.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N.A. Naz".

Headteacher