

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your patience and understanding whilst we have been trying to put plans into place for September. By now, we would usually have arranged meetings with you all and had the children into school for several visits. The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has meant that this has just not been possible this year.

We are planning to be fully open for all our current children as from 2nd September. It is important for the emotional and mental wellbeing of our children, many of whom have not been in school since March, to have a period of transition which will enable them to return to school in the familiarity of their current classroom with their current teacher before moving up to their new year group. As a result of this, the phased induction for our new Reception children will begin on Monday 7th September.

We would like to invite parents into school before the phased induction. This will be the only opportunity to come onto the school site and meet staff. After these meetings only staff, children and authorised visitors will be allowed access to school in an effort to minimise the risk of the spread of Coronavirus. Parent meetings are scheduled as follows:

Thursday 3rd September: Half of Blue Class: 9.30-10.30 / Half of Blue Class 1.30-2.30

Friday 4th September: Half of Red Class 9.30-10.30 / Half of Red Class 1.30-2.30

These meetings will be socially distanced and take place in small bubbles of 15-16. At these meetings, we can only accommodate a maximum of 2 adults per child and cannot accommodate the children or any younger siblings. Details on which class your child is in will be sent out shortly, along with your allocated meeting time on 3rd or 4th September.

From the week beginning 7th September, children will attend school as follows:

Mon 7th 9.30 – 11.30 Red Class / 13.00 – 14.45 Blue Class

Tues 8th 9.30 – 11.30 Blue Class / 13.00 – 14.45 Red Class

Wed 9th 9.30 – 12.15 Both classes (the children will stay for lunch – please ensure they bring a full water bottle)

From Thursday 10th onwards children will attend school full time. We will be operating staggered start and finish times to comply with government guidelines. Reception children must be dropped off at 9.10 and collected at 15.00. At drop off time, please use the main gate only. There will be no access to school for Reception children via the side gate as other year group bubbles will be using this as their entrance.

Children who are booked into Wraparound Care can access their breakfast and tea club sessions from Thursday 10th.

You will all by now have been asked to sign up to Care Monkey. Please ensure that you have completed the forms and return any requested documents in order for us to have up to date information on your child. This is especially important for medical conditions and dietary requirements.

We look forward to meeting you all in September. We will be able to answer many of your questions at the meetings but if you have any urgent queries before that please email stmargarets@durhamlearning.net. School will be closed for the summer holidays from Friday 17th July to Tuesday 1st September.

Kind Regards,

Mrs H Tait

Headteacher