

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we approach the end of the academic year, I thought I would share with you, as best I can, the plans for opening in September.

All of the below information is subject to change, and I am sure you can appreciate why, which is why I will direct you to the school website for important information during the summer holidays. I intend to be at school at various points during the break, as do several other members of staff, and we will do our utmost to answer any answerphone messages or emails you have sent us prior to the children returning.

Key Information:

The children will return to school on **Monday 7th September.**

As there is an expectation from September that education is once again compulsory for all children, we will be open every day and for full timetabled hours for all children.

The drop-off and pick-up times for each class are outlined below:

	Drop-off	Pick-up
Mrs Brailey <i>Reception & Year 1</i>	08:40	14:50
Miss Debenham <i>Year 1 / Year 2 / Year 3</i>	08:40	14:50
Miss Loades <i>Year 3 & Year 4</i>	08:50	15:00
Mrs Steer <i>Year 5 & Year 6</i>	08:50	15:00

As we have had this term on site, there will be a one-way system in operation with children walking from the carpark (apart from Reception children) to their class teachers on the playground. Please do not worry about the system as there will be lots of adults outside to help direct you.

We will expect to see children in full school uniform. The exception to this is school shoes – we fully appreciate that shopping for uniform in busy areas is not something we want to enforce and as there are usually big queues and waiting times, we will have a one-term transition with school shoes. From January 2021 we will expect children to be in formal black footwear as normal.

We will be introducing a new contactless system for paying for school lunch called ParentMail. This will give parents/carers more flexibility with how you pay for lunch and other payments to school in the future. A separate communication will be sent to you with a how to guide and a point of contact for any queries.

In September I will be consulting children, parents and staff to amend the school's behaviour policy.

Classroom organisation:

We have been advised to minimise the items coming in and out of school from children. To help us with this:

Children do not need to bring stationery to school – this will be provided.

From September children are allowed to bring packed lunch boxes as normal. There will be a limited hot lunch menu, (details will appear on our website). To ensure we minimise opportunities for infection between bubbles, children will eat their lunch in their classrooms.

In the Autumn Term we will review our approach with homework.

There will be some change to 'normal' lessons, for instance we have been advised not to use recorders in Music lessons or certain equipment in PE lessons to avoid the risk of transmission. We will continue to review this regularly and intend to provide a full and balanced curriculum from the first day back in September, including adapted PE lessons – so please ensure PE kits are brought in as normal.

Desks will be organised in rows facing forwards, this is intended to again minimise the risk of children transmitting the disease.

As it is likely that school may need to shut for non-scheduled reasons, we need to adapt our way of working. While the current online system has been an interim measure, it is far from ideal and we need to adapt our approach for such an event – again we will send a separate communication with more clarity.

How you can help us:

Be on time, not early. This helps us to avoid footfall on site.

If your child displays any symptoms of Coronavirus, such as temperature or persistent cough, do not send them to school. Instead contact 111 to apply for a test. Please remember to inform the school office of any absence and a reason why by 09:20.

If your child develops any symptoms of Coronavirus while at school, even if when you turn up you disagree, that child will need to leave the school site and you must apply for a test.

Conclusion

It can be challenging to have a balance between all of the information parents/carers need to know and with information over-load. This is intended to give you some key information

ready to return in the autumn. In addition to this I have also created a Question and Answer (Q&A) tab on the parent's section of the website. As I am asked questions, or as new information arises, I will update the website and I would recommend you read this information to help give you a clear idea of what is happening.

We will continue to be open next Monday 20th July – Wednesday 22nd July if you have any queries you wish to ask. In addition the contact@newtonflotman.norfolk.sch.uk email address and the school telephone number 01508 470379 will be checked at various points during the holidays.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support. Your messages of encouragement and kind words on the gate have made this difficult period much easier. I hope you all have a restful summer holidays and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Mr Riley

Headteacher