



Laning, Dent, Sedbergh, Cumbria. LA10 5QJ Tel:01539625259  
Email: [admin@dent.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@dent.cumbria.sch.uk)  
Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Emma Pomfret

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Return to School on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

I hope you are all well. I'm sure you are looking forward to your children returning to school on Monday! We are really looking forward to welcoming the children back to school and I am looking forward to putting more faces to names. School will start at the normal time of 8.45am on Monday. We know from last time that some children felt anxious about their return but even those who were feeling anxious, settled back into school well and seeing their friends really helped. As we have done this once before hopefully it will make the transition back into school easier but we are all here to support the children every step of the way.

In line with current Government guidelines it is mandatory that all school aged children return to school full-time from 8<sup>th</sup> March and attendance will be recorded as normal. This is of course unless there needs to be a temporary absence due to Covid-19 symptoms or requirement to self-isolate, in this case we will be using temporary attendance procedures issued by the Government and remote learning will be provided.

We have reviewed all our Covid-19 procedures and updated our risk assessments to ensure we are following the latest guidance. All the Covid-19 procedures we had in place last term remain in place and we will operate as a single school bubble. The reassuring change since last term is that staff are now carrying out Lateral Flow tests twice a week, this is to try to pick up any asymptomatic cases as early as possible. Yesterday I sent you details about how to access Lateral Flow tests for yourselves. There is no requirement to test primary aged children.

We will continue to do our best to make sure school is as safe a place as possible for both children and staff. The single control measure that makes the most difference is ensuring we **minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.** To this end if your child or anyone in the household has symptoms or if you have been asked to self-isolate by NHS Track and Trace **do not send your child into school.** If at any point you are requested to collect your child from school, it is essential that you do this immediately and if you are asked by school staff to access testing for your child and family you must commit to doing this. Children will not be able to return to school without written confirmation of test results. If you are unsure of anything please ask and we will do our best to guide you through the steps you need to take. There are 3 main symptoms of Covid-19 but we also know that children can experience a wide range of other symptoms so we will be taking a cautious approach to all illness in school. If we ask you to collect your child please come to collect them promptly.

**Drop off will be 8.40am with the bell at 8.45am as normal and collection will be at 3.15pm.** When you are dropping your children off please do not gather round the school gate. This will allow others access and to keep everyone (children and adults) socially distanced from each other. At the end of each the day we would like **all parents** to come onto the playground and stand socially distanced from each other towards the back wall. Only one parent/adult per family will be allowed onto the school playground. The children will then be dismissed from the school building to their parents in the playground. This change is both to prevent children being dismissed onto the road and also to allow parents to socially distance from each other rather than congregate near the gate. **Adults coming onto the school site must wear a face covering for the time they**

**are on the playground.** Please respect others by maintaining social distancing of at least 2m and leave the school premises as quickly as you can with once you have collected your children.

For now, there will be no After School Clubs but we will be working to reinstate these in the coming weeks

A full school lunch provision will be provided as normal from Monday.

We loved giving teddies to all our children. Please could you ask your child to leave them at home, we don't want to cause upset by getting teddies muddled or lost in school! We really don't want to have to try to reunite 35 (or even just a couple) of unnamed teddies with their owners!

If you have borrowed a school iPad or laptop please send it into school with your child on Monday. Please remember its charger too!!

### **What your child needs to bring to school**

We need to ensure that equipment brought between home and school is kept to a minimum so please do not allow your child to bring any non-essential belongings or toys from home. It is an expectation that all children will be in full school uniform every day. The children may bring a small school bag containing;

- Any school reading books that you have at home.
- **PE kit to be left in school from Monday to Friday, please make sure you include some tracksuit bottoms and a jumper as PE** will be outdoors in all but the most extreme weather. A lightweight waterproof may also be useful for inclement days;
- A named refillable water bottle with a sports cap – this will be taken home each day for washing;
- Packed lunch if your child is not having a school lunch;
- A warm, waterproof coat;
- A sun hat;
- An all-day sun cream **applied** – please bear in mind we may be spending more time outdoors and don't forget legs in case we change into PE kits;
- Any personal medication i.e. Inhalers, EpiPen's.

Please remember that although the children are back at school from 8<sup>th</sup> March we are still in 'National Lockdown.' To enable us all to be allowed all our freedoms back as soon as possible it is vital that everyone continues to do their part by following the lockdown rules. Your journey to and from school is considered essential and you should make your way home or to work as quickly as possible after your journey to school.

As out of school activities begin again please consider carefully whether your child takes part. As a result of attending out of school activities last term some families found themselves having to self-isolate meaning the children missed school and adults missed work. Please consider what is essential and be comfortable with the risk of having to self-isolate if you choose for your child to take part in any out of school activities.

I really hope I have remembered everything! If you have any questions just get in touch. We look forward to seeing you and your children on Monday.

Yours sincerely



Emma Pomfret  
Executive Headteacher

**Please note:** This is based on current Government guidance and Local Authority advice. As this changes we will adapt to meet new guidelines and advice as they are published.