



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have come to the end of what has been another challenging year, but as always we have come through and have been able to celebrate our amazing children's successes. The resilience and determination each and every child has shown has been incredible. We could not be more proud! Well done, everyone!

We now look forward to the next academic year, which promises to bring much more stability and normality for our staff, children and families. As we look ahead, I would like to inform you about the changes that will be made as from the 1<sup>st</sup> September. These changes have been made using current DFE guidance and may be subject to change at any time:

### **Daily routines**

All daily routines will resume as they were pre-covid. Children will no longer be required to stay within bubbles, so collective worship will take place once again as a whole school and lunches will be enjoyed in our lunch hall. Children across each key stage will be able to mix at playtimes and parents will be able to enjoy organised school events.

From September 1<sup>st</sup>, our staggered start and finish times will no longer be required. Therefore, we will return to our usual start time of 8:45am and finish time of 3:15pm. This will be the same for all children across the school. Parents will no longer be required to wear a face covering on the school premises; although some may still choose to wear one at their own discretion.

In the case of a school or local outbreak, restrictions may have to be resumed. For example, the reintroduction of 'bubbles' as a temporary measure.

### **Personal Equipment**

From September, we ask that children no longer bring personal electronic devices into school. In addition, all equipment, including stationery, will be provided in school. Children only need to bring book bags with reading books, reading diaries and water bottles.

### **Handwashing & Personal hygiene**

Strict handwashing regimes will continue in September. Children will still be asked to sanitise their hands on entry to the building and at regular times throughout the school day. We will still

#### **Forsbrook C. E. (C) Primary School**

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*A Christian School Where Quality and Opportunities Make a Difference*

**Head Teacher:** Mrs K. M. Mitchell BA (Hons)/N.P.Q.H

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encourage the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' motto and all current cleaning regimes will remain in place, including the frequent cleaning of touch surfaces and equipment. We will also ensure that spaces are kept well-ventilated.

Again, in the case of a school or local outbreak, restrictions may have to resumed. For example, face coverings may have to be worn as a temporary measure.

### **Reporting COVID cases**

From September, if a child displays any of the three main symptoms of coronavirus, including a cough, high temperature or loss of taste or smell, they will need to self-isolate immediately. If a child shows symptoms in school, they will be taken to a quiet room and parents will be called to collect. Parents will then need to book a PCR test for their child and inform school of the results. If the result is positive, the child will have to self-isolate for ten days. If the result is negative, the child can return to school immediately.

There will be no contact tracing in schools from September. Schools will not inform parents of positive cases in school. This will all be done by track and trace. Therefore, if your child does test positive for COVID-19, you will need to continue to inform track and trace so that they can identify close contacts.

Where there is a positive case in school or at home, track and trace will not ask children to isolate. They will be asked to do a PCR test and if this is negative there will be no need to isolate.

There may be occasions, if we have several positive cases, where we put contingency plans in place to contain the spread of the virus. See Outbreak management plan below:

### **Outbreak Management Plan**

In the event of a school or local outbreak of coronavirus, the following measures will be introduced as a temporary measure to attempt to contain the virus:

- The reintroduction of bubbles, with no cross bubble teaching or equipment use
- The reintroduction of class worship
- The reintroduction of classroom lunchtimes
- The reintroduction of face coverings in communal areas
- The reintroduction of school contact tracing (if absolutely necessary)

This will be decided in liason with the local outbreak team and parents will be informed via email.

### **Lateral flow testing for staff**

Staff will not be asked to test twice weekly over the summer holidays, but will resume twice weekly testing when we return in September. This will ensure that we continue to keep our staff, pupils and families safe. Again, if a member of staff tests positive for coronavirus, children will not need

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to isolate. They may be asked, however, to do a PCR test if they are named as a close contact to track and trace.

### **Remote Learning**

From September, if your child has tested positive but has no symptoms, we can support your child to work at home through our remote learning policy.

### **Attendance**

Children are expected to attend school as normal in September and attendance will be recorded. Regular attendance in school is crucial for a child's development and progress. We deem good attendance as anything over 95%. Attendance below 90% is cause for concern and therefore parents will be contacted directly to discuss what support is needed for improved attendance.

We very much look forward to welcoming our children and families back on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and hope that next year will bring much more positivity and togetherness.

I hope you all have a lovely summer holiday.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Mitchell (Headteacher)

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