



Skelton Newby Hall Church of England School
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Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Palmer
6th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We can't wait to see everyone on Wednesday!

As a nation we are now in Step 4 and some measures in school have been relaxed. The attached risk assessment (which can also be found on the school website) details the COVID secure arrangements currently in place.

I am writing to you to let you know how things are going to look in school.

Contacts

Close contacts will be identified by NHS Test and Trace and no-longer the school.
Children under the age of 18 are no-longer required to self-isolate.

Symptoms

Staff members and parents/carers must understand that they will need to be ready and willing to [book a test](#) if they are displaying symptoms. The main symptoms are a high temperature, a new continuous cough and/or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms, and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested if they have symptoms, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents or carers if using a home testing kit.

It remains essential that anyone who gets a positive result from a lateral flow test self-isolates immediately, as must other members of their household, while they get a confirmatory PCR test.

If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.





Increased hygiene

Cleaning schedules will continue to make sure that frequently touched surfaces are cleaned twice per day. Frequent handwashing with liquid soap and water for 20 seconds will continue to be a priority. The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach is promoted and disposable tissues used.

Classrooms

Children no-longer need to sit in rows, and will mostly be arranged to work in groups. Classrooms will be always well ventilated.

Government information for parents

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

School meals

School meals are cooked fresh every day in our onsite kitchen by our lovely cooks, Mrs Fiona Blackmore and Mrs Beccy Haswell. Children can choose from a hot meal, or an alternative option of jacket potato, panini or sandwich option. Children are able to select their choice each morning as the register is taken.

Children will be eating their lunches in mixed groups, creating a family feel to the environment.

Children are alternatively able to bring their own packed lunch.

Packed Lunches

In order to flourish, we need a healthy body and mind. To help us achieve this we have chosen to work towards achieving North Yorkshire's Healthy Schools Award focusing on food as it plays such a big part in our health. We know that our school meal menus are carefully constructed by experts in food nutrition and so are beginning our journey by evaluating packed lunches.

We would like to achieve:

For every lunch to have two pieces of fruit or vegetables, which includes at least one savoury item.

Every lunch to contain a portion of protein.

That no lunches contain sugary or fatty foods.

We ask that children do not have nuts in their packed lunches as we have children in school with nut allergies.

Please comply with this request so we can keep our children safe. Can we please request that grapes/olives etc are cut in half lengthways to minimize a choking risk?

Uniform

School uniform should be worn every day. On days when PE is scheduled, children should bring their PE kits to school to change into for PE lessons. Please see the class pages to find out when your child has PE.





What to bring to school?

Children should bring the following:

- a full water bottle (to be taken home each day, cleaned and filled)
- if required, packed lunch (ensuring all packaging can be opened by your child)
- Reading book and reading record
- Fruit or vegetable for a snack at break (KS1 receive fruit from school)
- Waterproof coat
- Sun hat/cap

If sun protection is necessary, please apply liberally before school.

It is preferred that children do not bring large bags into school as storage is limited to their lockers.

Early Birds

Early Birds will continue to operate in the Nest, to allow classrooms to get set up and ready for the day ahead. Early Birds club opens at 8am and provides a chance for children to take part in some active and crafty fun with their friends before they go to their classrooms. There is a charge of £2 for each session. If you wish to book places, please email admin@skeltonnewbyhall.n-yorks.sch.uk

School routines

All children are welcome to arrive from 8.45a.m., ready for school to begin at 8.55a.m.

Please be reminded that children are not to play on any equipment before and after school.

Learning and routines

Remember to look at the class pages on the school website where you can find out about the learning for this term. timetables, termly overview, home learning expectations and regular updates on class activities. Home learning will continue to be shared on Teams.

New adults

We welcome Miss Harris as our new school administrator. She will be very pleased to get to know you all. We are also very pleased that Mrs Cobbley is joining us whilst Mrs Higginson has some time with her new baby. Mrs Cobbley knows everyone very well as she has been with us as a volunteer for some time.

Preparing children for returning to school

Continue to talk openly with your child about how they are feeling; remember we are here to support you, so please contact your child's teacher or myself if you need any help or have any questions.

Help reinforce messages about good hygiene and handwashing.

We were able to arrange time for the children to meet their new teachers during the summer term, but it was not possible for them to visit their new classrooms. They may be feeling a little nervous about returning to school and what it will be like now. Please share parts of this information with your child so that they have some understanding of what school will be like when they return.





If you have any concerns, please get in touch with us now so that we can work together to find solutions.

We look forward to being together again.

Yours sincerely

Jacqui Palmer
Executive Headteacher

