



26th February 2021

RETURN TO LEARNING

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have just over one week to go before schools reopen to all pupils on March 8th. I am sure that many of you will be looking forward to sending your child back to school and for routines to be re-established. The staff are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school and teachers are busy making plans for the last two weeks of term.

The main focus for the children will centre on their wellbeing; reacquainting themselves with friends, being given opportunities to explore learning in the outdoors and sharing with their classmates the impact that COVID-19 has had on them over the past year. Classes will be given time throughout the course of the day to talk about their feelings and concerns through directed time and will slowly be reintroduced to the rigours of learning.

Whilst we are aware of the gaps that need to be plugged we must do this in a carefully measured way but we can only do this if we set the correct standards from the outset. I wrote to you earlier today via the weekly newsletter about the importance of standards and as such I would like to remind you of the following:

COLLECTION AND DROP OFF

We will continue to open the gates on Allerton and Aycliffe from **8:30am** from Monday 8th March when **ALL** children are expected to return to school. Gates will close at 8:55am so please make sure that you are on time. There are a number of families who struggle to bring their child to school on time on a regular basis, please make every effort to set the right example by using the breakfast club which will be open from 7:45am if you experience difficulties with routines in the morning.

Year Group	Drop Off Time	Gate	Collection Time / Gate	Gate
Nursery	8:40am	Main Gate to the school on Aycliffe Road	3:15pm	Main Gate to the school on Aycliffe Road
Reception	8:40am	Main Gate to the school on Aycliffe Road	3:00pm	Main Gate to the school on Aycliffe Road
Year 1	8:30am	Double Gate on Aycliffe Road	3:05pm	Year 1 Gate on Aycliffe Road
Year 2	8:30am	Double Gate on Aycliffe Road	3:15pm	Double Gate on Aycliffe Road
Year 3	8:30am	Gate on Allerton Road	3:00pm	Gate on Allerton Road



Year 4	8:30am	Gate on Allerton Road	3:05pm	Gate on Allerton Road
Year 5	8:30am	Gate on Allerton Road	3:10pm	Gate on Allerton Road
Year 6	8:30am	Gate on Allerton Road	3:15pm	Gate on Allerton Road

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING AT ALL TIMES AND WHERE POSSIBLE PLEASE WEAR A MASK

UNIFORM

Children must return to school in full school uniform which includes; the wearing of proper school shoes – no trainers or boots, acceptable haircuts and clean uniform. If for any reason you are struggling to source school uniform please make contact with the school where we will give you as much help as we can. Please click on the link to remind yourselves of the school uniform expectations - <https://parkside.herts.sch.uk/uniform/>

MORNING SCHEDULE – We all know how challenging the morning routine can be for families. There are many challenges each one of you face but with some careful planning the situation can ease. Below are some tips which may be of some use to you.

Top tips to help with managing hectic school mornings

Follow this checklist every night and your mornings can be much less frantic!

- If your child has a packed lunch, put all non-perishable food in lunchboxes the night before then just add the drinks and sandwiches in the morning
- Put out school uniform the night before
- When your child/children come home from school if they change their clothes their uniform can be ready and washed for the following day
- Ensure all school bags are ready the night before and placed by the front door
- Check that shoes are in their place
- Check calendar to see what is needed for the following day. For example: PE kits/football kits/swimming kit
- Check that all homework has been completed and is in their school bag the night before ready to go to school
- Reading is done and records signed every day

HOMEWORK

Teacher will continue to set a variety of activities for the children to complete over the course of the half term. The expectation is for them to complete a minimum of 4 activities and to submit them to their class teacher. I cannot stress highly enough the importance of home learning, something we have all had to get used to over the past year. It is an invaluable way of supporting your child's learning.

Children will be expected to read every night for a minimum of 20 minutes for children in KS2 and 10 to 15 minutes for children in the Early Years and KS1.

Spellings will also continue to be set on a weekly basis.

BREAKFAST CLUB AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The Breakfast and After School club will reopen on Monday 8th March and is available to all children. You must book your place using the School Gateway booking system.

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

PARENTAL SUPPORT

If for any reason you are struggling with certain areas of your life we are here to support you as best as we can. Mrs Mattholie our Parental Engagement Officer has a wealth of experience and can offer you guidance and direction should you require it.

I will write to you all again next week with further information about the scheduled reopening on Monday March 8th. Until then please stay safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C Soyka', is positioned above the printed name.

C Soyka
Headteacher