



Edmondsley Primary School

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Tuesday 14th July 2020

Dear parents,

I hope you and your families are all well. The past few months have been challenging for everyone but I am so proud of how professional staff at Edmondsley have been. I would like to thank Mrs Wilkinson for her leadership during the pandemic and all the staff for working through the ever changing rules and guidance; much resilience has been shown. I have regularly communicated with staff at Edmondsley throughout the year but more so over the last few months as a result of the pandemic.

Learning Grids

Children have now missed a lot of school experiences, such as playing, working and learning with their friends. The weekly Learning Grids have hopefully helped you provide a range of activities for your children. However, it would be useful for teachers to know how successful you feel the activities have been in case we have another Lockdown. With this in mind, a survey will be sent to you shortly to complete. It is hoped that we will be able to welcome all children and staff back to school in September safely but it would be thoughtless of us if we didn't plan for another lockdown. Knowing what has worked and what has not been as successful will help teachers immensely and hopefully you as parents too. Please complete the survey for your child's current class honestly.

'Recovery' Curriculum

We are keen to provide a positive experience of a return to school and for most children this will be easy. We recognise that for some children this may be an anxious time and a lot of reassurance will be required. As Mrs Wilkinson mentioned in the previous letter, we are busy creating a curriculum for September which will take this into account. Children will not be tested on their return to find out what they have remembered.

SEPTEMBER 2020

Parents of children with Special Educational Needs

Mrs Anderson, our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, would like to reassure all parents who have children with Special Educational Needs that their child's Individual Support Plan will be ready for the start of the new academic year. Parents will be contacted early in September to review the plans. Staff have two Professional Development days on Tuesday 1st September and Wednesday 2nd September to ensure all children's needs will be met immediately. If you feel your child would benefit from coming into school earlier on Thursday 3rd September, please e-mail us at edmondsley@durhamlearning.net

Current return to school

Currently, all children from Year 1 to Year 6 are expected to return to school on Thursday 3rd September. As you are aware, DFE guidance is regularly updated depending upon the pandemic circumstances and so this may change. I will contact you via text messaging/Facebook/school website if this is the case.

Nursery and Reception Children will begin their transition visits on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th. Parents of Nursery and Reception children will receive a separate letter providing further details.

Uniform

Mrs Wilkinson's letter dated 24th June 2020 provided information regarding uniform expectations in September. This still currently applies. Here are the main points—

- Children must wear freshly washed school uniform to school each day
- 'School uniform' from September includes a polo shirt (with or without school logo) or school sweatshirt. School trousers or skirt or your child's own jogging bottoms/leggings.

Cleaning in school

A new Caretaker has been appointed to our school and an **additional** cleaning post is currently being advertised. Please let anyone know who you think may be interested in the post to contact our school. The deadline is Friday 17th July.

Risk Assessments

As a Local Authority School, Governors and the Senior Leadership team take the advice and guidance given to us seriously. The Risk Assessment provided by Durham Local Authority will be reviewed regularly and will continue to be updated when necessary. This will ensure that we are following our Local Authority guidelines to keep all children and staff safe.

Arrival and home time arrangement in September 2020

To adhere to social distancing guidelines, we have put the following measures in place. Start and end times to the school day have been staggered.

	<u>Start time</u>	<u>End time</u>
Early Years Foundation Stage Bubble (24 children)		
Nursery (Caterpillar Class)	9:15 – 9:30	*See below
Reception (Butterfly Class)	9:15 – 9:30	2:50 – 3:00
Key Stage 1 (50 children)		
Year 1 (Hedgehog Class)	9:00 – 9:15	3:00 – 3:10
Year 2 (Squirrel Class)	9:00 – 9:15	3:00 – 3:10
Key Stage 2 (100 children)		
Year 3/4 (Rabbit Class)	8:45 – 9:00	3:20
Year 4/5 (Deer Class)	8:45 – 9:00	3:20
Year 5/6 (Stag Class)	8:45 - 9:00	3:20

We greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that you arrive at your allocated time, no earlier or later please. If you have more than one child, please choose either time.

Enter our school site via the lower or top gate as usual (Please do not use the driveway). Please immediately walk your child towards the school building and to the outdoor classroom entrances. All classrooms have signs in their windows telling you which class they are.

All children, except in year 2, will enter our school building using the doors which lead directly into their classrooms. Children will be welcomed by their teachers. Children in Year 2 will enter the school building by the Key Stage 1 entrance as their class does not have a direct door leading from their class to outside.

The Double Gate at the top of the field will be open for all parents to leave. Please be prepared to walk across the grass to get to the gate. Parents will not be able to leave via the gates they entered the school site by. Parents are expected to leave the school site immediately.

- Pupils must be accompanied to school each morning and collected each evening by one adult
- Pupils, parents/carers must maintain social distancing when entering the school site.
- Start and end of the school day has been staggered by 15 minutes per Key Stage.
- Parents are not permitted to enter the school building.

Class Bubbles

We will be adhering to the Government's advice on Class Bubbles. Your child will form a bubble with the rest of the children in his/her class and the staff in the class too. Deer Class, made up of Year 4 and Year 5 children will make one Bubble. Stag Class with Year 5 and Year 6 children will make another Bubble. Rabbit Class with Year 3 and Year 4 children will make another Bubble. Nursery and Reception children will make one Bubble etc. They will remain in this bubble at all times. Children will not be able to move between or socialise with other bubbles.

Not only have we put staggered arrival and home times in place, but playtimes and lunchtimes will operate so that children from one bubble do not come into contact with children from another bubble. We are lucky that we have such a vast amount of space available to us at Edmondsley.

Water bottles

Water bottles will be returned home each afternoon. Please ensure these are cleaned thoroughly and topped up for the following day.

School bags/belongings

School bags will not be required as your child only needs to bring their water bottle.

School Lunches

Taylor Shaw, the company who provides our school lunches will continue to do this in September. Please pay via Parent Pay.

If you prefer your child to have a packed lunch, this must be brought to school in a disposable bag. All leftovers will be thrown away, including the bag.

Breakfast Club

Unfortunately we do not have the space or staffing requirements to provide Breakfast Club. As Breakfast Club is made up of children from across all year groups, we are unable to supervise these children in their own Class Group Bubbles.

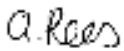
After School Clubs

Again, unfortunately, all clubs will not be able to run until further notice.

Thank you

As previously mentioned, I will contact you via text/Facebook/school website during the summer holidays. In the meantime, I would like to thank everyone for their patience in this uncertain time. The Government has firmly stated that all children must return to school in September. All staff are working hard to ensure this can be done safely. I am looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Thursday 3rd September 2020.

Best wishes



Mrs A Rees
Head Teacher