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4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## September Re-opening Update 2

Dear Parents & Carers

A huge thank you from us for all your help, support and co-operation to get the children back into school this week. We have had a brilliant first three days and the children have all been exceptional!

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S BAG/POCKET THIS AFTERNOON- THEY SHOULD HAVE A HOME/SCHOOL AGREEMENT IN IT. PLEASE READ AND SIGN IT THEN RETURN IT TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPT.**

### Start and End of Day

The procedures we have put in place during the school day all seem to be working well and the children have very quickly adapted to new ways of working. The start and end of the day have been the only areas where we have had some slight concerns:

1. If you are walking to school with your child in the morning then please send them straight through the correct main gate for their year group as soon as you arrive. You do not need to wait on the pavement for a member of staff to let them in. This cuts down on any congestion on the pavement and ensures that social distancing is maintained. The children will then line up by their year group gate/door and will be let in from 8:35am by a member of staff.
2. If you are collecting your child at the end of the day please come into the school grounds (from 3:10pm) and wait for them in the correct collection area for your child's year group. Once again this keeps us all separated around the site and stops congestion on the pavement. You are more than welcome to remain on site for a few minutes after you have collected your child to wait for others to leave as I am aware that the pavement outside school is getting busy as people wait for the crossing.

Social distancing on the pavement waiting for the crossing seems to be a particular issue. Please use the markers in the school grounds as you are queueing to leave. The only other option we have to combat this is to have staggered end times for each year. This is something I wanted to avoid if possible as many of you already have different end times to



manage with siblings in the Infants and local secondary schools. We will monitor this again next week.

It is important that we all remember the need to continue with suitable social distancing from others who are not in our household. We have received an update today from Cumbria County Council to say that there has been a slight rise in new Covid cases in the County and more are expected as people return from holidays. It is important therefore that we all still remain vigilant.

As our school, the Infants and Workington Academy will have all pupils back in school from Monday next week it will be vital that we manage the end of day safely for everyone.

### **Illness & Attendance**

Now we are all back in it is crucial that we follow the guidelines that will keep us all safe. In particular please ensure you do not send your child to school if they are displaying any of the Covid symptoms:

- High temperature (above 37.8) and/or
- A new continuous cough
- Loss of or change in normal sense of taste or smell.

If your child is displaying any of these symptoms then please let us know and then arrange for a test. We do have a small number of home testing kits for those who cannot get to a test facility. If the test result is negative and your child feels well enough to attend and they have not had a high temperature for 48 hours then they can come back into school. If the test result is positive we will need to then take further action with anyone classed as a close contact (this is not necessarily everyone who is in the same class/bubble) in school.

We know that we are coming up to the time of year when we often get coughs and colds going around school. It is important that we don't spread these infections as well. Please keep your child at home while they are unwell, particular if they have a high temperature. If your child needs to self-isolate because they are a close contact of someone with Covid-19 symptoms but they themselves feel well then we will provide home learning tasks for them to work on while at home so they can keep up with their peers.

### **Water Bottles**

We have reviewed the situation with water bottles and decided that at the moment it will be safer to suspend the school's empty bottle policy. This means the children will need to bring their bottle in each day filled with water from home. This will ensure that the only person touching the bottle is your child. Staff will not need to touch the bottles to fill them at the water machines. This change will begin on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Sept.



Thank you for your co-operation with everything. This is an ever changing situation and things will continue to adapt as we settle in and get used to operating on site with everyone back in. Please keep up to date with any messages, texts, emails and letters that come out.

Best wishes to everyone.

Mrs S Frost  
Headteacher

