



**Lowick and Holy Island C of E First Schools**

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Dear Parents / carers,

After careful discussion with staff today, and with support from county and the diocese, we have decided that we will open as planned this week. We have reviewed our risk assessment and our school procedures and ask you to read this letter very carefully. We thank you for all for your continuing support for the following:

- Please can all parents and carers **keep to the staggered drop off and pick up times for each group of children** (nursery, class 1 and class 2). We appreciate that this means some parents need to wait up to 10 minutes in between pick up times but we hope you understand that we are seeking to reduce congestion and traffic on the pathway in and out of school at this time and avoid disruption of children’s learning as best we can.
- Nursery parents needing to wait for class 2 children are welcome to play with their children in our yard area, if that helps them to maintain social distancing, before coming round to wait outside the classroom area. Where possible, please stay at least 2m away from the classroom door to maintain social distancing when we are receiving children or sending them out. If you need to collect your child outside of the usual times, please come to the front door.
- In addition to our previous system, we would now ask that adults wear a mask or face coverings, if possible, when visiting the school site, including during drop off and pick up. Staff will do the same at that time.

Drop and collection times will work as follows:

Class and staff	Drop off	Pick up	Location
<b>Nursery</b> Miss Adams and Miss Easten	8.50-9.00am	2.30 – 2.40pm	Come round the side of the school as usual and onto the yard. Drop and pick up from <b>outside the nursery building.</b>
<b>Class 1</b> Mrs Strangeways	8.40- 8.50am	2.40 – 2.50pm	Come round the side of the school to where the grass slope is and the wooden stage. Do not go round onto the yard. <b>Class 1 will come in the side door straight into their classroom.</b>
<b>Class 2</b> Mrs Stiansen and Mrs Waddington	8.30- 8.40am	2.50 – 3.00pm	Come round the side of the school to where the grass slope is and the wooden stage. Do not go round onto the yard. <b>Class 2 will come in the side door straight into their classroom.</b>



- Please remember that we need to restrict items travelling between home and school as much as possible. We ask that children do not bring in items from home as far as is possible (obviously medicines and personal care equipment etc is still acceptable). We understand that some of our younger children need to bring in 'comfort items' which will be kept in their boxes during the day.
- We are tightening up our book lending system. Children will be supervised choosing 3-5 books once a week to keep for the duration of that week. Books which have been read will then be collected in for 'quarantine' on Mondays. We anticipate that after this week, 'new books day' will be on Wednesdays. The children will keep their book choices in their own wallet whilst in school and are able to take them home and back as they are not sharing them once in school until after they are quarantined. For most children this will be the only item that they carry between home and school. We will continue to use Seesaw as our virtual reading log for staff and parents/carers. Please make sure you can access this app and let us know if you need support.
- We will continue to clean and disinfect shared resources such as iPads, laptops and play items as well as other objects and areas which are shared (work surfaces, door handles, light switches etc) frequently during the school day.
- We will continue to regularly wash hands and use hand sanitiser throughout the day and promote good hygiene in school (such as 'catch it, bin it, kill it' and so on).
- We are continuing, and increasing, the amount of time we are spending outdoors. All children will be doing forest school on Friday afternoons for this half term. We will still be covering curriculum objectives but in a practical way. We will still be doing PE on Wednesday afternoons (outdoors where possible) and Commando Joe's on Thursday afternoons. **All children will need warm clothing, appropriate footwear and coats on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.** Please get in touch if you need support with this.
- We will continue to keep our windows open to ventilate the school all day. If your child feels the cold, they may need to wear extra base layers to help keep them comfortable as the temperature outdoors is colder than it was last term.
- We plan to continue with after school clubs, and before and after school care, in the same way as we did last half term as we are able to run them under the same guidelines as we run the school day.

**School clubs will start next week** and are: active club on Monday (more details to follow in our newsletter), PE and eco-schools clubs on Wednesday and Commando Joe's on Thursdays.

**Before and after school care begins this week.** As before, please let the school office know if you need to book your child in as this helps us organise our staffing.

The school is still one bubble and children will begin this term with whole school input on staying safe and being healthy to reinforce our systems in school. Our curriculum theme this half term is Fantastic Creatures and in RE we are looking at 'How people follow God' (including the bible stories of Jonah and the Whale and Noah's Ark). Next half term we will be looking at poems from around the world (still with a fantastical theme) and the Easter story.

Please note that school will only provide remote learning for children who are off for authorised reasons (such as children who need to self-isolate or if the school is closed). All families should have log on information for Seesaw, Sumdog and Classroom Secrets Kids which we will use should we need to move learning online. Please let us know if you need a reminder for any of these.

We thank you again for your support during this very challenging and confusing time. We wish you all a very happy 2021 and hope we will soon see a return to normal.

Kind regards,  
*Rebecca*