

Darnhall Primary School  
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26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted that all children can return to school very soon! Thank you to everyone who has supported their children at home with remote learning – you have done a great job! This letter outlines how we are trying to get back to normal as much as we can whilst keeping children and staff as safe as possible.

### **DROP OFF AND COLLECTION TIMES**

Last term, the staggered starts greatly helped to improve congestion on our narrow pathways, social distancing and have enabled our children to come to school safely.

As schools will be FULLY reopening on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, we still feel it is important to continue with these measures for drop off and pick up times.

In order to ensure that learning time is not affected, we have decided to have just two staggered drop off and pick up times. Please see further details below. These changes will be in place until further notice.

**The following changes will be in place from Monday 8th March 2021.** All families must follow the **drop off arrangements below**. We are continuing to use your child's last name as an initial for this. If you have children with different last names then use the initial of your eldest child (*this includes childminders*).

**8:30am LAST NAMES STARTING WITH J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z**

**8:40am LAST NAMES STARTING WITH A B C D E F G H I**

Morning nursery will start at 8:30am and finish at 11:30am and afternoon nursery will start at 12:15 and finish at 3:15pm for all children.

OWL CLASS will all attend 8:45-3:00pm

**ALL children in Reception to Year 6 must continue to be left at the gate and no parent/ carer will be permitted on the playgrounds at drop off unless walking between sites.**



MASKS MUST BE WORN BY ALL ADULTS PLEASE. CONTINUE TO KEEP YOUR DISTANCE AT ALL TIMES PLEASE.

### **PICK UP TIMES**

If your child is old enough and capable enough to walk home (Years 4-6) then they should continue to do so. If not, please stick to the following collection times:

**3:00pm LAST NAMES STARTING WITH J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z**

**3:10pm LAST NAMES STARTING WITH A B C D E F G H I**

Early years classes queue at the gates and for key stage 2 children - either meet your child outside the gate or use the designated space provided to wait on the KS2 yard - maintaining social distancing at all times.

ALL GATES WILL BE MANNED BY STAFF FOR SAFETY REASONS BETWEEN 8:30-8:45am and 3:00-3:15pm – please be punctual.

### **Uniform, hair, jewellery and PE**

As we reopen to all pupils, we want to ensure that we maintaining our high standards in uniform.

It is an expectation that children come to school in their full, smart school uniform. On their PE days they will need to come to school dressed in a smart PE kit (navy leggings/ joggers shorts and a white t-shirt). Details of PE days will be sent out.

Book bags/ small rucksacks can now be brought into school but we are still asking you to limit the number of items brought into school each day (strictly no toys or pencil cases). Bags will only need to contain a lunchbox, water bottle, snack (KS2) and reading book (if all of those things apply to your child). Bags will need to be taken home each day.

If your child takes home a Samsung tablet from school, then these must be carried by the handle to and from school and not put into a bag in case they get broken or something leaks on them.

Long hair must be tied back at all times.

**No jewellery** is to be worn expect for one small pair of stud earrings which they must be able to remove them themselves for PE. Religious jewellery is an exception.

### **Lunchboxes, Snacks and Water Bottles**

From the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021, children will be allowed to bring lunchboxes into school, if they wish. Lunchboxes **MUST** be taken home every day and washed before they are brought back into school the next day. Water bottles need to contain water only. Children will be responsible for taking home their water bottles home to be washed daily and brought back the next day. Children will need to bring in fruit as a **healthy snack** in Key Stage 2 – this is provided in Early Years and Key Stage 1.



### **Samsung Tablets (Years 1-6)**

If your child has a Samsung tablet at home, which has been provided by school, then they will need to be brought into school fully charged each day because they will need them each day for their learning. If your child normally takes their tablet home with them, then they will then be responsible for this each day.

Tablets can still be used for homework, home learning tasks etc.

### **School Dinners**

School dinners will resume service in the hall. If you require a school dinner for your child/ren then these will need to be paid for in advance using the Parent Pay system unless your child receives free school meals.

During break and lunchtimes, the children will mix within their **year groups only**. There will be a clear system in place where a maximum of two year groups will be in the hall at any one time. These year groups will not mix AT ALL and staff will ensure that there is more than 2m distance between the two years groups using the hall at all times.

### **Breakfast Club and Home Hub**

There will be a separate Breakfast Club 8-8:30am and Home Hub 3-5pm for EYFS/KS1 and for our KS2 children to minimise the contact that they will have with children in other year groups. The children will mix with other children in their key stage for this provision and will form a before or after school 'bubble' as they did in the autumn term.

If your child is in Nursery, Reception or Years 1 or 2, then they will attend the EYFS/KS1 Breakfast Club and Home Hub in the Early Years building on Darnhall School Lane.

If your child is in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6 then they will attend the Breakfast Club and Home Hub in the Key Stage 2 building on Sandyhill Road.

Please note that children will need to be dropped off or collected from the buildings explained above. If siblings are in different key stages e.g. if you have a child in Year 2 and a child in Year 4, then they will need to be dropped off and collected at the two different sites.

### **Class Dojo and Homework**

Class Dojo will continue to be used to set homework weekly. Homework will begin again from Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March and will be set on the Class Dojo. Please remember, that as teachers will be back in the classrooms full time, they will only be responding to children's homework on the Class Dojo. Any questions or general queries should be sent to either our school contact email: [contact@darnhall.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:contact@darnhall.cheshire.sch.uk) or should go through the school office on 01606 593315.

The government has stated that attendance is now **compulsory** for all children, unless your child is clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV). If they are CEV you have to provide school with a copy of your child's Government letter. Time keeping is so important and we hope that



children are on time so they don't receive late marks and miss valuable learning. Make sure you have established a good bedtime and morning routine over the next week ready for when they are back at school. We know that a lot of parents and carers have worked hard to maintain routine during lockdown.

If your child has to self-isolate because they have been in close contact with a positive case, are awaiting their own result, or the result of a household member, then remote learning will be set via the Class Dojo within 24 hours of you notifying the school that you child is isolating.

Please note that remote learning provided from March 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 will not contain pre-recorded videos made by teachers – like they have been during lockdown - as teachers will be back in the classrooms teaching full time. The full explanation of what remote education will look like, in the event of a child self-isolating or shielding, can be found on our school website under the Curriculum heading – Curriculum 2021 – Remote Learning.

If any of this presents you with difficulty, due to your own personal circumstances then please either email [contact@darnhall.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:contact@darnhall.cheshire.sch.uk) or call school and ask for Mrs Tomlinson or Mrs Mulholland 01606 593315 – we are here to help.

Please only use the school mobile number 07701 316490 in an emergency or WhatsApp photos for competitions during reasonable hours. **It is not for general enquiries.**

Thank you for helping to keep us all as safe as we can. We appreciate your continued support and we are so pleased that we will all be back together again. I hope this comprehensive letter covers everything.

With kindest regards,

Sarah Tomlinson

Headteacher

