Tuesday 14th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to clarify details about our full reopening in September. The NJS staff and Governors are really looking forward to having our school family back together. We will be ensuring, at all times, we follow the guidance issued by the Department for Education which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools> Our plans for doing this have been approved by the Governing Body.

We are aiming to keep our school family safe and this will be a priority in everything we do over the coming weeks and months. We will also be working hard to rebuild our children’s love for school and sense of trust that the world can be a safe place with people working happily and safely together. The majority of our curriculum offer for the first half term will be with a focus on emotional and physical wellbeing to ensure we have happy, settled, confident children able to flourish moving forward.

Please can we advise all parents and carers that the government currently advise that in September school attendance will be compulsory for all children. Non attendance should be reported to the school office (01952 386600) by 9.15am on the day of absence.

Groupings:

* At Newport CE Junior School children will work in Year group bubbles but will spend most of their time with their class.
* Year groups will be together on arrival and departure, break times and lunchtimes.

Uniform

* Children are requested to attend school in full uniform.
* Parents and carers are asked to ensure uniform is clean.

Arrival at School:

* The preference is that families will walk to school, drive if essential and are asked to avoid public transport if possible.
* Children are not allowed to wear a face mask on school site, this should be removed at the gate if one is worn on the journey to school.
* Years 5 and 6 are requested to arrive between 8.45am and 9am.
* Years 3 and 4 are requested to arrive between 9am and 9.15am.
* If you have siblings in different year groups: we hope the 15 minute interval will allow you time to drop off multiple siblings and kindly request that you organise your timings appropriately to your circumstances e.g. a Year 5/6 child may be dropped at 8.55am so that you can then drop your Year ¾ child at 9am.
* In their time slots Years 4 and 6 will be dropped off through the black gates closes to Avenue Road South. A one way system will be used to bring parents/carers onto the playground and staff will be waiting for the children on the playground.
* In their time slots Years 3 and 5 will be dropped off at the security gate on the visitors car park (this car park will be closed at 8.30am each day). A one way system will be established and staff will wait for children at the security gate.
* Please do NOT congregate outside the school gates.

Hygiene:

* Children will wash their hands on arrival at school in our outdoor sinks. They will regularly wash their hands throughout the school day.
* We recommend handwashing rather than sanitiser but hand sanitiser is also accessible throughout school.
* We will be regularly educating the children on how to wash their hands properly!
* All year groups have allocated toilet facilities and they will use only these during the school day.
* We have brought in an additional midday clean for toilets and touch points across school.

Equipment:

* Children are asked to bring a PE bag into school with their kit. This bag will remain in school all week and be taken home on a Friday for washing to be returned on the Monday.
* Children will be bringing reading books home. Books will be placed in ‘isolation’ boxes for 48 hours before they are put back on the shelves after use.
* All children MUST bring a filled water bottle each day: we will not be able to provide any drinking vessels.
* Children do not require stationery items: they will have their own personal stationery provided for them and this will be stored in school.
* Children can bring a small back pack into school but it should fit neatly into a locker alongside their coat and PE bag.
* Children will have access to PE equipment and other learning resources: these will be cleaned between use.

Curriculum

* In September we will begin our recovery curriculum which will be essential for all children. It will address four key areas:

1. Building Relationships
2. Managing feelings and emotions
3. Learning to engage and achieve
4. Looking after our Physical and mental wellbeing

* When teachers are confident the children are ready then we will begin our usual broad and balanced curriculum offer which will of course include ‘catch up’. Our teachers are very skilled at understanding how to pitch the curriculum content: they will ensure gaps are addressed and pupils are stretched appropriately.
* We won’t be having whole school celebrations or assemblies in person but our use of technology has greatly improved over recent months so we will have online assemblies and events to keep our school family together.

Classrooms and Corridors:

* There are some one way systems in school: don’t worry these will all be explained to your children.
* Children will not be moving into other year group areas: year groups will be kept separate.
* In line with the guidance children will be sat forward facing: please don’t worry about this, NJS teachers often use this format in September when they are getting to know the class and it works well.

Lunchtime:

* Children can choose between a packed lunch and hot dinner.
* Children can order a hot meal on the day with their teacher at registration time.
* We will shortly be issuing a temporary simplified hot dinner menu for the first half of the Autumn Term.
* We would prefer parents to pay online for school meals: <https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20028/school_meals/8/pay_for_school_meals> Please contact the school office if you require your child’s code.
* If your child brings a packed lunch this will be stored on the lunchbox trolley.
* Children will eat their lunch in the hall with their year group. The tables and chairs will be cleaned between use.

Departure:

* Years 5 and 6 will be collected between 3pm and 3.15pm.
* Years 3 and 4 will be collected between 3.15pm and 3.30pm.
* Years 4 and 6 will be collected through the black gates. Parents and Carers are asked to follow the one way system.
* Years 3 and 5 will be collected through the visitors car park and from the security gate. Parents and carers are asked to follow the one way system.
* If your child is allowed to walk home alone we ask that you email the class teacher to advise them of your consent for them to be dismissed alone.

Communication:

* We ask that you respect the safety of our staff by following social distancing guidance at all times.
* We want to communicate with you and build positive relationships: please know you are welcome to email and telephone class teachers, they will get back to you as soon as they can around their teaching commitments.
* Initially parents and carers will not be able to come into school site. If you need to drop anything off for your child then please use the drop box which is positioned in front of the security gate. Please ensure anything you place in there is clearly labelled with the name of the person it needs to be delivered to.

First Aid

* If your child requires First Aid we will administer this. Staff may wear PPE to administer First Aid on a pupil for their protection: as this occurs we will of course reassure your child as to why we are having to do this. We will send home a slip with details of First Aid or of course telephone you if it is necessary.

NJS extras!

* We will not be resuming swimming until at least October half term.
* NJS clubs will be reviewed at October half term; there will be no clubs in the meantime.
* Noah’s Ark will resume breakfast and after school club provision in September on the NJS site.

**IMPORTANT: Your child MUST NOT attend school if they, or anyone in the household, presents with coronavirus symptoms which are a cough, temperature or loss of taste or smell. We request you inform school immediately (01952 386600) if there are symptoms in the home.**

**IF a child becomes symptomatic whilst in school they will be placed in isolation with a member of staff wearing PPE and you will be asked to collect them immediately.**

Please find attached a risk assessment approved by the Local Authority and Governing Body of Newport CE Junior School. ***We will be filming a video this week to help with your understanding of the arrangements and we hope this will also reassure your child: we will send you the link.***

We hope you can be reassured that we are working very, very hard to follow guidance and keep members of our school family safe.

Please also know that Team NJS care; we are looking forward to seeing your children and rebuilding their love for learning at NJS.

We can’t thank you enough for your support over the last few weeks and also over the coming months.

Mrs Moody