

21st July 2021

IMPORTANT

Plan for September 2021 – following the Government's lifting of COVID restrictions

Dear Parents / Carers,

In light of the Government's Step 4 announcement in the easing of COVID restrictions, I am writing to you to inform you of the changes that you will notice in September, as we return to our normal running of the school day.

Start of day

There is very little changing for the start of the school day. Our timings remain the same and we still actively encourage our pupils to use the drop off point when they are ready. This helps to speed things up in the morning and prevents a traffic jam in the car park. Please read below to see where you can drop your child off in the morning.

8.30am – 8.45am, children go straight into school when they arrive

- ***New Reception pupils to come in via the main school gate.*** Parents can walk them around to the playground and meet Miss Bradley at the sliding doors. (Older siblings can accompany them)
- ***All Year 1 to Year 6 pupils to either use the drop off point or come in via the main school gate.*** Parents to say goodbye at the gate.

End of day

We are returning to our usual pre-COVID practice at the end of the school day.

3.00pm - Miss Bradley's Reception class & Miss Roberts' Year 1/2 class on the school playground.

- The gate will open at 2.55pm and you will be able to come onto the school site and wait on the school playground where your child's class will be dismissed to you.

3.10pm - Mrs Diamantis' Year 2/3 class, Mr Martin's Year 3/4 class & Mrs Tutton's Year 5/6 class.

- Parents for Mrs Diamantis' class will be able to come onto the school site and wait on the school playground where your child's class will be dismissed to you.
- Parents for Mr Martin's and Mrs Tutton's classes will wait in the school driveway and your children will be dismissed from the school gate.

Car parking congestion – possible use of drop off point

One of the ongoing challenges we have at Northbourne is accommodating all of the parents' cars safely at the end of the school day. Even though we have substantially extended the car park in the woodland, there is still nowhere near enough room for everybody's cars.

Please show patience and care at the end of the school day. You may very well get blocked in or need to double park. We ask that you all show care and attention to each other. If it becomes apparent that the situation is unmanageable, we will revisit the possibility of Year 5/6 being collected from the drop off point at the end of the day.

“Bubbles” and operating as a school community

We will no longer be running classes as “bubbles”. This means that children are free to play with other children from different classes at break times and lunchtimes. We will be able to run cross-class lessons and interventions. Our after school clubs will no longer be restricted to just one class at a time. We will once again be able to meet all together for assemblies and collective worships. Parents will be warmly invited into school for events such as celebration assemblies and parents' evenings. We cannot wait to return to operating as a whole school community once again!

Remaining COVID cautious

Naturally, much could change between now and September. Therefore, we will remain sensible and COVID cautious in all that we do. Our COVID risk assessment covers actions we will take in both non-COVID times and times when there are positive COVID cases at school. We will be sure to continue to communicate any necessary steps or changes we need to make as we move through next year.

Coronavirus is still with us and we need to work together to ensure that our school remains open to ALL pupils once we return in September.

Mr M Reynolds

