



St Michael's CE Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mr G Johnston MEd NPQH



26th February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Following the announcement this week by the Prime Minister, I am now in the position to share with you our plans for the full re-opening of school from Monday 8th March to **all children**. We are delighted that we can have everyone back in school and to continue to support children to make progress and achieve.

The Department for Education has made it clear that school attendance will be mandatory for all pupils from 8th March. We will be following a strict system of controls to support this which include:

Prevention

We will:

- 1) Minimise contact with individuals who are required to self-isolate by ensuring they **do not attend** the school.
- 2) Ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances – by staff only.
- 3) Ensure everyone be advised to clean their hands thoroughly and more often than usual.
- 4) Ensure good respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- 5) Maintain enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents.
- 6) We will minimise contact across the site and maintain social distancing wherever possible.
- 7) Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.

In specific circumstances:

We will:

- 8) Ensure individuals wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) where necessary – such as for intimate care.
- 9) Promote and engage in asymptomatic testing, where available – staff only

Response to any infection

We will:

- 10) Promote and engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.
- 11) Manage and report confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community.
- 12) Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice.

This detail will all be outlined in our risk assessments which are updated regularly following guidance from Northumberland County Council and shared on our school website.

In the attached document we have outlined the procedures for parents from drop-off to pick-up. In the main, this will be very similar to our provision from September to December 2020, so will be familiar. We know you will be able to work with us to make this a success as you did in the autumn term.

At St Michael's we continue to be very thorough with our planning following guidance at every stage. This has included liaising closely with the Local Authority, Diocese and Unions. We understand that these are uncertain times and there may be some levels of anxiety about children returning to school. We would ask that you contact school as soon as possible if you are concerned so we can share further explanations and information as necessary.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch via email at:

admin@stmichaelsalnwick.northumberland.sch.uk or be phone 01665 602850



Whilst this is an unusual time, our over-riding feeling is relief to be able to welcome the children back into school. We look forward to seeing you all on the 8th March.

With every good wish,

Gavin Johnston - Head Teacher