



# High Peak Federation



Executive Head Teacher – Mr Ashley Parry

## Thornsett Primary School

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## Newtown Primary School

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**16.7.2020**

**RE: The return to school for all pupils at the beginning of the Autumn term following the school's partial closure due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.**

Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you of the steps we will be taking to fully reopen to all pupils this September and share what you need to know to help your child prepare for their return to school in the new academic year.

We understand that the return to school is vital for your child's education and wellbeing; therefore, we will ensure that all pupils can return in the Autumn term and do so safely. While the risk to children becoming severely unwell due to coronavirus is considered to be very low, we will continue to put control measures in place, in line with the results of the relevant risk assessments, to help keep all members of our school community safe.

We appreciate that there may be some of you who have questions regarding return to school. Should you have any queries or concerns after reading the information in this letter, please contact school at [info@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk) and we will reply to you as soon as possible.

### **When the school will reopen**

The school will reopen fully on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September to all pupils in all years, and any previous arrangements to limit school places during the coronavirus pandemic will no longer be in effect.

### **Attendance**

In line with National guidance, attendance for all pupils is mandatory from the beginning of the Autumn term. The usual rules regarding term-time absence requests will also be in place.



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Pupils who are self-isolating due to presenting with symptoms of coronavirus, or have been exposed to somebody presenting with symptoms of coronavirus, must not attend school until the self-isolation period has passed or they test negative for coronavirus. If your child presents with coronavirus symptoms, the self-isolation period is seven days; if a member of your household presents with coronavirus symptoms, the self-isolation period for your child is 14 days.

### **How pupils will be grouped**

Consistent groups will be enforced when pupils return to school at the start of the Autumn term. We aim for this arrangement to help reduce the risk of coronavirus transmission by limiting the number of people pupils encounter throughout the school day. Enforcing strict group arrangements will also help us reduce the number of people who will be asked to self-isolate should a member of the group become ill with coronavirus.

From September, pupils will be grouped into Class Bubbles until further notice. The classes will not be permitted to mix at this time, including during breaktimes and lunchtimes. We will continually review the effectiveness of enforcing these groups, as we understand this arrangement may present educational and logistical challenges.

Should any of the above group arrangements change at any time, the school will notify you as soon as possible.

### **Recovery Curriculum**

When we return to school our daily timetables and learning programmes will be a little different to usual. There will be a focus on both core Reading, Writing and Maths skills as well as a provision for supporting well-being too. Classes will be outdoors more, with a wide range of other activities that will help the children with their learning and development. As always, we will put fun and enjoyment at the top of the list too.

### **Contact with school**

Please avoid face-to-face conversations with members of staff and ask that you email school, instead. Please use cashless payments where possible and remember school meals need to be paid in advance. Dinner money prices have increased to £2.20 per meal / £11 per week.

If your question / information is for the class teacher and not urgent – you can email them directly at:

[sett@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:sett@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk)

[goyt@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:goyt@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk)

[mersey@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:mersey@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Teachers will reply as soon as they are possible.



## Getting to school

We have introduced some changes to arriving / picking-up from school, to allow for effective social distancing and infection control. Please see the table below for information for each class.

Group	Arrival / Pick-up Arrangements
SETT	8:45am - use the steps at the front of school and move to the right of the playground. 3.15pm - use the steps at the front of school and move to the right of the playground.
GOYT	8:30am – 8.45am - use the steps at the front of the school, keep to the left side of the playground and drop at the usual door. Children come straight in to class to avoid congestion with Sett Class. 3.05pm – 3.15pm - use the steps at the front of the school, keep to the left side of the playground and wait for a member of staff to bring your child out to you. Leave straight away to avoid congestion with Sett Class.
MERSEY	8:45am - wait on the pavement opposite the back steps to school. A member of staff will be there to escort children into school. 3:20pm - be dismissed from the back steps to school.

There are several rules we need everyone to follow at arrival and pick-up times to ensure we do not have to introduce more staggered timings that will shorten the school day:

- One adult per family, if possible
- Do not linger
- Maintain some social distancing
- Do not drive up to school unless absolutely necessary
- Be prompt and keep to timings – if late you will need to come to the Reception door

Crossing patrol will be at Aspenshaw Road as usual, but we have been informed this week that Linda is retiring. This means we will have no crossing patrol at Dr's End until further notice - DCC will assess the provision as soon as possible. We have passed on some flowers and a card, but will also organise a collection in September.

## Infection control and social distancing measures as of September

It is important that we maintain proportionate infection control and social distancing measures when we welcome back all pupils and staff from the start of the Autumn term. To ensure everyone's safety, we will be enforcing the following (amongst other measures) as part of our risk management plan:



- Anyone who is unwell and displaying symptoms of coronavirus will be asked to stay at home for seven days.
- Robust hand and respiratory hygiene practises will be encouraged and enforced.
- Enhanced cleaning will be undertaken as necessary, including cleaning any frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.
- The NHS 'Test and Trace' system will be actively used and followed.
- Limitations will be placed on the number of people staff and pupils encounter during the school day.
- Large gatherings will not take place, e.g. assemblies, after school clubs, events involving other schools, educational visits to busy public spaces.
- Pupils will be grouped together and asked to remain in these groups.
- Contact between groups will be avoided.
- Where possible, pupils will be asked to maintain some social distancing, avoid sitting face-to-face, etc.
- Abide by any rules outside of school too.

Should any of the above protective measures change at any time, including the need to close the school due to a local lockdown, we will contact you as soon as possible.

### **If your child becomes unwell**

If your child becomes unwell at school and develops a new, continuous cough, a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of smell or taste, they will be sent home immediately. They will be told to self-isolate within the school and supervised, as necessary, until they can be collected. The school will contact you as soon as possible should your child need to go home. It is therefore vital that we have your up-to-date contact details, please contact us as soon as possible to notify us of any changes.

If your child becomes unwell at home and is presenting with symptoms of coronavirus (listed above), we ask that your child does not attend school and instead stays at home for the next seven days or until they test negative for coronavirus. We request all parents whose child is presenting with coronavirus symptoms to get their child tested (see information at the end of this letter) and, where required, their family. Please contact the school office before 8:20am to notify us that your child will not be attending. We also ask that you send us as soon as possible the text with the result of the coronavirus tests that have undertaken.

From September, school has to contact our Local Health Protection Team for advice following confirmed cases of CV19. They will inform us of the next steps the school has to take – these may include individuals needing to self-isolate ; partial or class bubble isolation or whole school lockdown. As of writing this letter, we have still had no confirmed cases of CV19 for pupils or staff at either school.



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### **Catering arrangements**

School kitchens will be fully open from the start of the Autumn term and will serve both hot and cold food. There may be some variations in menus to aid more effective serving of foods. Free school meals (FSM) will be provided as normal. Pupils will be asked to remain in their designated groups at lunchtime and will eat their lunches in the hall. Infection control and social distancing measures will be enforced during lunchtime and we ask that pupils do not share food, utensils, or cups at this time.

### **School uniform**

The school expects all pupils to wear school uniform from the beginning of the Autumn term. To reduce close contact between staff and pupils, elasticated waist trousers / skirts and Velcro shoes would be preferred. For younger children, get them to practice dressing, undressing and changing into and out of uniform into PE kits, putting coats on and off, etc. As always, please name everything! We will continue to engage in much learning outside, so please ensure your child has appropriate coat / sun hat, etc. depending on the weather. We also ask that PE kits are provided for both indoor and outdoor use. We encourage any new footwear to be 'worn in' as we will be taking children for walks and don't want them to struggle with uncomfortable shoes / trainers.

### **Breakfast Club**

We will start Breakfast Club from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Start time is 8:10am and the cost is £1.50 / session. We will be serving a range of foods that are easier for staff to prepare and a drink will be provided too. There will be no food served for children arriving after 8:25am. Children will remain in Class Bubbles for their Breakfast Club session. You will now need to book a place a week in advance by either calling school, or emailing Jane in the office at [info@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@thornsett.derbyshire.sch.uk)

### **Reading Books**

We are aware that we have many Reading Scheme books still at home – please send them back in September.

### **Home Learning**

Please hold onto the Home Learning that has been completed. However, we want to collect pieces of learning that children might be particularly pleased with / proud of and put them into a Scrap Book. If children have anything they really want us to see, it will be great to receive one or two pieces of learning per child.

### **Mathletics**

Your child's Mathletics account will be refreshed on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020, ready for the results from the next school year and results and progress bars will be reset. Your child's



Avatar, certificates and Live Mathletics scores will still be there, ready for another exciting year of Maths!

### **Volunteers**

We are always really appreciative for any additional help we receive in school – please email if you would like to help out during the 2020-21 school year. We will review when we can accept volunteers, but at the moment this is unlikely to be from the start of the Autumn Term.

### **2020-21 Term Dates**

These are attached to this letter.

### **A Few Words**

I would like to thank you for your continued hard work and co-operation during the coronavirus pandemic. We are committed to supporting you and your child as they transition back into school routine and we are looking forward to seeing everyone again in September. I also wish to thank all the staff for their dedication, care and resilience – they have been phenomenal.

We hope you and your family stay safe and well.

Mr Parry and the Thornsett Team



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## **2020-2021 Academic Year Term Dates**

- Thursday 3rd September 2020 – Thursday 22nd October 2020
- Monday 2nd November 2020 – Thursday 17th December 2020
- Monday 4th January 2021 – Friday 12th February 2021
- Monday 22nd February 2021 – Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021
- Monday 19th April 2021 – Friday 28th May 2021
- Monday 7th June 2021 – Wednesday 21st July 2021

### **INSET DAYS:**

WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020

FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2020

FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020

THURSDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2021

THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2021

### **Bank Holidays**

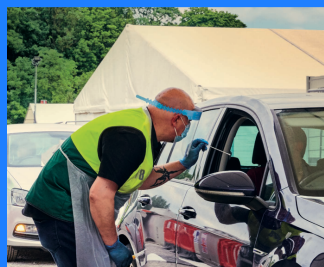
- 25th and 28th December 2020
- 1st January 2021
- 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 (Good Friday)
- 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (Easter Monday)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021
- 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 (Spring Bank Holiday)
- 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021 (Summer Bank Holiday)





# Test and Trace

## Information for parents and carers



**GOT SYMPTOMS? GET TESTED NOW**

**Do not leave home, except to get a test.**

Find out how to get a test at

**[nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus) or call 119**



**STAY ALERT CONTROL THE VIRUS SAVE LIVES**

- Anyone, whatever their age, who develops symptoms can get a test.
- Book a test within five days of experiencing a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or loss or change to sense of smell or taste.
- The test involves taking a swab of the nose and throat. Children aged 12 or over can use the swab themselves or can have help. Children aged 11 or under will need a parent or carer to do it for them.
- If you or someone in your household tests positive for coronavirus you'll be contacted by the NHS Track and Trace team. You'll be asked where you have visited and who you've been in contact with. It is important that you give the correct information to keep everyone safe.
- Your close contacts will be asked to self-isolate at home to stop the spread of the virus. If you are traced as a close contact you must stay at home.
- We're all in this together. By doing the right thing you are helping to protect your friends and family and things can get back to normal more quickly.