



Returning to School



Lockdown Artwork – Year 6 Pupils

A guide for pupils and parents

September 2020



A welcome from the Headteacher

I am delighted to be welcoming back all of our pupils on Thursday 3rd September. While school has remained partially open throughout lockdown for a small number of pupils, for the vast majority, they will not have attended school since March.

Therefore, it is to be expected that some of our children (and parents) will be nervous about September, because they are unsure about what to expect. For this reason, we have produced a short guide to help reassure you that school is safe. We have carefully considered the guidance issued by the Department for Education (DfE) to complete all necessary risk assessments.

As we have been allowed to welcome back more pupils, it has been fantastic to see children with happy smiling faces, enjoying school once again. A number of parents and carers have also been very complimentary about arrangements that have been put in place.

Year group bubbles and social distancing

For the safety of pupils and their families, we have been instructed by the DfE to group pupils into "bubbles". A bubble is a group of children who can mix together in the classroom, move around school together and outside. At Northern Saints, a bubble will consist of a year group. However, bubbles must remain socially distant, i.e. kept apart from other groups of children, at all times. For this reason, we have had to rearrange the school day, introducing staggered start and finish times, staggered breaks and lunchtimes.

It is essential that you try to keep to these times to minimise contact between different groups of children. Should siblings have different school times, we will work with you to minimise any inconvenience with drop offs and pick ups.

Please see below the start and finish times of your child's school day.

Year Group	Teacher	Entry and Exit Point	Start Time	Finish Time
Reception	Mrs Hayward	Right hand side of main drive	8.45am	3.00pm
	Mrs Hesler			
	Miss Travis			
Year 1	Mrs Dunn / Mrs Clarke	Right hand side of main drive	9.00am	3.15pm
	Miss Lucas			
	Mrs Turnbull / Mrs Clarke			
Year 2	Miss Scott	Right hand side of main drive	8.30am	2.45pm
	Miss Cardy			
	Miss Maxfield			
Year 3	Miss Liddle	Left hand side of main drive	9.00am	3.15pm
	Mrs Race			
	Miss Woodfield			
Year 4	Mr Tarpey	Left hand side of main drive	8.30am	2.45pm
	Miss Cook			
	Mr Clydesdale			
Year 5	Mrs Whitelock	5/6 gate on Radlett Road	9.00am	3.15pm
	Miss Thurlbeck			
	Miss Knox			
Year 6	Mrs Curley / Ms Heaney	5/6 gate on Radlett Road	8.30am	2.45pm
	Miss Shrubbs			
	Mrs Bingham			
Language Provision	Mrs Gregory / Mrs Jameson	Right hand side of main drive	8.30am	2.45pm

Reception

We know that this can be a particularly anxious time for our Reception children who are new to school. Under normal circumstances we would have undertaken a comprehensive transition programme to ensure our children were familiar with their new classroom and teachers. As this has not been possible, the Reception parents should have already received a letter outlining arrangements for the first 2 weeks to ease transition.

Classrooms

Classrooms will look a little different in September. All tables will be forward facing, in line with DFE guidance, to limit the potential transmission of the virus. Each classroom will be deep cleaned at the end of the day and hand sanitiser will be available in all classrooms.

Attendance

It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development.

Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be mandatory once again from the beginning of the autumn term. This means from that point, the usual rules on school attendance will apply, including:

- parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence;
- the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices, in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.

Uniform

Full school uniform is expected to be worn from September. Blazers, ties and book bags are available to buy from school. Please order uniform using the Sunderland City Council pay for it service on their website. If you require any further information, please contact the school office.

Our school uniform is as follows:

Girls

- School blazer with embroidered school badge
- Grey skirt or grey tailored trousers (not fashion trousers)
- White shirt (buttoned shirt suitable for a tie)
- School tie
- Navy blue v-necked jumper or cardigan
- Grey/black/navy tights or socks
- Smart black hard wearing flat shoes (no trainers or flossies). If boots are to be worn to school in the winter, they need to be black and children must change into their smart black shoes when they arrive at school.

(Please note that there is no variation in the summer and gingham dresses and pinafores are not permitted. Children do not have to wear school jumpers in the summer but school blazers must always be worn to school without exception. Of course they can be removed once in school if it is hot. Ankle socks can be worn.)

Boys

- School blazer with embroidered school badge
- Grey tailored trousers (not fashion trousers)
- White shirt (buttoned shirt suitable for a tie)
- School tie
- Navy blue v-necked jumper or cardigan
- Grey/black/navy socks
- Smart black hard wearing flat shoes (no trainers or flossies). If boots are to be worn to school in the winter, they need to be black and children must change into their smart black shoes when they arrive at school

(Please note that there is no variation in the summer except that children do not have to wear school jumpers. School blazers must always be worn to school without exception. Of course they can be removed once in school if it is hot.)

PE Uniform

Indoor PE

- Plain white t-shirt

- Navy blue shorts
- Plain socks
- Trainers or plimsoles

Outdoor PE

- Plain navy blue, black or grey sweatshirt/hooded top/tracksuit
- Matching navy blue, black or grey jogging bottoms/tracksuit
- Trainers

(Indoor shorts and t-shirt can be worn underneath if it's cold)

Curriculum

School will continue to provide an ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum in all subjects.

This will include:

- English (Sounds Write phonics, spelling, reading and writing)
- Maths
- Science
- RE
- History
- Geography
- Computing
- Art
- DT
- PE
- Music
- Spanish
- PSHE and mental health education

A recovery curriculum has been planned to ensure that all children have the opportunity to revisit prior knowledge and embed new learning encountered during lockdown. Lessons will include elements which may have been missed during school closure. Extra support will be provided by school (DfE covid catch up programme) to address any gaps in learning.

On our children's return to school, their wellbeing will be our priority. Teachers will be delivering mental health lessons where children will have the opportunity to discuss their feelings about lockdown and the return to new routines. For the first few days in class, all children will be creating art and DT projects, based on our new and exciting curriculum topics.

Behaviour

We are launching our new behaviour policy in September, where children will be recognised for their achievements and will be given the opportunity to earn a range of different rewards. Further details about the new behaviour system will be shared with all parents and children in the autumn term.

Lunch Time

From September, the usual school lunch menu, prepared by Sunderland City Council, will be in full operation and a hot meal will be served. Children will be served in their year group bubble. KS2 will eat in the Hub and Reception/KS1 in the Worship Hall. Full risk assessments have been conducted by Sunderland City Council and all hygiene assessments have been undertaken.

Free School Meals

If your child is in Reception, Years 1 or 2, they are entitled to a free school meal, saving approximately £418/child/family.

Visit [www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/families/ free-school-meals](http://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/families/free-school-meals) to register for means tested free school meals. Call 0191 561 1417 for any queries relating to free school meals.

The price of a school meal for pupils in Years 3 – 6 will be **£2.20**.