



Weekly Bulletin –11th September 2020

Headteacher's Message

I hope you are all keeping well.

I again thank parents for working with us to keep school as Covid-secure as possible, especially given the rises in Coronavirus cases seen nationally. By strictly observing drop off and pick up times, sending your children with the requested equipment and leaving the school site as soon as you have collected your children, you are helping to keep everyone safe. Thank you too, for carefully supervising your children when waiting to collect/drop off a sibling at later staggered time. From today, children's pencil cases will remain in school for the half term. This is to avoid the staff having to sanitise pencil cases each Monday morning, which is proving to be time consuming. We have received some queries about face coverings. Face coverings are not permitted for children in the primary school setting. Parents, however, may wear a face covering when dropping off or collecting their children. Please continue to refer to the guidance from Durham County Council found below relating to Covid-19.

Best wishes and stay safe

Mr Tait

Covid-19 key messages from Durham County Council

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Good regular hand washing is one of the most important prevention and protective measures anyone can take. The more you do it and the better you do it, the more protected you are. The coronavirus is covered in fatty particles and these are attracted to soap particles and will attach themselves to the soap particles any chance they get. In turn, soap particles are more attracted to water molecules and attach to them. This means that as the soap and water are washed away down the sink, they take the virus with it. Remember to wash your hands after you blow your nose, sneeze or cough, before you eat or handle food and after using the toilet. Often used on the go, hand sanitizers containing alcohol can kill bacteria, viruses and germs by breaking down and dissolving their membrane and proteins. Hand sanitiser must have an alcohol content of 61% or more to be useful and is not a replacement for good handwashing.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Hands can pick up lots of dirt, bacteria and a whole host of other things in a short space of time. If your hands come into contact with a coronavirus infected surface, the virus will be transferred onto your hands. This will not infect you; the virus still needs to make its way into your body. The easiest way in is through your eyes, nose, and mouth. Keeping your hands off your eyes, nose, and mouth is another simple way to protect yourself. If you need to touch your face, wash your hands first.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin.

If someone is infected with Coronavirus, then the moisture in their breath and saliva will contain the virus. These droplets don't travel very far which is why two metres social distancing rules are in place. However, when you cough or sneeze droplets from your mouth and nose can travel much further. To stop this from happening use a tissue to catch the droplets. The tissue will now be covered in germs so throw the tissue in a bin. If you don't have a tissue use the crook of your arm. Remember to wash your hands after you blow your nose, sneeze or cough.

If you have a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a change in your sense of smell or taste, get a test.

Did you know that not everyone knows all the symptoms of Coronavirus? It's important to know the symptoms, that way you can protect yourself and your family. Do you know them? They are; a new continuous cough, where you cough a lot for more than an hour, or have three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours; a high temperature, where your temperature is above 37.8°C; or a change in your sense of smell or taste. Did you also know that if you, or someone you live with, has any of these symptoms the advice is stay at home to stop the risk of giving coronavirus to others, and arrange to get a coronavirus test. There are two ways to arrange a test – you can [book a coronavirus test online](#) or call 119 if you have no internet access.

If you have symptoms you must arrange a test and self-isolate.

As soon as you experience coronavirus symptoms, you should stay home and self-isolate for at least ten days. Anyone else in your household should also stay home and self-isolate for 14 days from when you started having symptoms. By doing this you will be automatically protecting your family and friends and the wider community. The virus needs to be passed between people for it to survive. Self-isolation stops any contact with others and limits the virus' opportunity to pass between people. This is a very important step if we want to reduce the chances of spreading the virus and having a local outbreak like the one in Leicester leading to a local lockdown. You should arrange to get a coronavirus test. There are two ways to arrange a test – you can [book a coronavirus test online](#) or call 119 if you have no internet access.

If you test positive you must self-isolate.

If your test is positive you must complete the remainder of your ten day self-isolation. Anyone in your household should also complete their self-isolation for 14 days from when you started having symptoms. By doing this you will continue to protect your family and friends and the wider community from coronavirus. If you need help during this time and you don't have friends, family or neighbours to help, we can put you in touch with organisations through the County Durham Community Hub who'll be able to help you through this time. The most up-to-date information can be seen by following this link www.durham.gov.uk/covid19help Alternatively you can contact them by phone on 03000 260 260 between 9.00am until 5.00pm Monday to Friday or via email at communityhub@durham.gov.uk (If your test is negative, you and other household members no longer need to isolate).

If you are contacted by the NHS Test and Trace Service you must self-isolate.

If you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus you will receive a call or text from the NHS Test and Trace Service. (Under 18's will get a phone call and a parent or guardian will be asked to give permission for the call to continue). You will be asked to begin self-isolation for up to 14 days, depending on when you last came into contact with the person who has tested positive. It's really important to do this even if you don't feel unwell, because it can take up to 14 days for the symptoms to develop. Remember we don't want the virus to spread so although this may be disruptive for you, it is less disruptive than an outbreak of coronavirus and far less

disruptive than a local lockdown. By doing this you will continue to protect your family and friends and the wider community from coronavirus.

Parking

As you know, it is very important to us to continually try to reduce congestion near school and to promote a safe and healthy environment for our pupils, staff, parents and local residents. Maintaining good relationships with our neighbours is vitally important for our school. I would, therefore, remind you to be considerate when parking and not to block our neighbours' driveways/access at any time or to block pavements.

For safety reasons, please do not park directly in front of the school gates at any time. Please drive with extreme caution and care if you do need to access Beal Walk. Beal Walk and surrounding roads do not have pavements and are often used by our children, so it is dangerous to drive whilst people are walking to and from school.

We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Diary Dates

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

School Extra-Curricular Activities

There will be no extra-curricular activities during the first half of the autumn term. This is in order to avoid pupils mixing beyond their bubble group. As we undertake further risk assessment exercises during the course of the first half of the term we will keep you updated as to when clubs can resume.

Y3 Swimming Lessons

We have been informed by Durham County Council that swimming tuition will not recommence before January 2021.

PE Lessons

Please ensure your child wears their PE Kit on the designated day:

R – Thursday

Y1 – Monday

Y2 – Wednesday

Y3 – Monday

Y4 – Friday

Y5 – Thursday

Y6 – Tuesday

Friends of Shincliffe School (FOSS)

Our FOSS team have, for a number of years, given excellent support to the school through various fundraising activities. These have included our annual Christmas and Summer Fairs, Christmas shopping evenings, termly school discos, science shows, craft activities, coffee afternoons and much more. The money raised has supported each and every child in school through funding for school trips, Christmas celebrations and equipment to name but a few. In these changed times, as we take measures to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, we are unable to have anyone other than pupils and

staff on the school site. This clearly impacts on the way in which FOSS is able to operate. The committee members are keen to receive ideas from parents for virtual fundraising and to invite anyone who wishes to join the team. If you have any idea or would like to join the team, then please contact the School Office.

Safeguarding- information for parents

Definition of Safeguarding

This can be summarised as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care

Safeguarding is not just about protecting children from deliberate harm. It relates to aspects of school life including:

- Pupils' health and safety
- Meeting the needs of pupils with medical conditions
- Providing first aid
- Educational visits
- Internet or e-safety
- Appropriate arrangements to ensure school security

Safeguarding can involve a range of potential issues such as:

- cyberbullying (by text message, on social networking sites, and so on)
- Racist, disability, and homophobic or transphobic abuse
- Radicalisation and extremist behaviour
- Child sexual exploitation
- Sexting
- Substance misuse
- Issues that may be specific to a local area or population, for example gang activity and youth violence
- Particular issues affecting children including domestic violence, sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation and forced marriage

Our Safeguarding Policy is available on the school website.

Training

3 members of staff are trained in Level 2 safeguarding and child protection:

- Mr D Tait (Headteacher)
- Mr P Rumbles (Deputy Headteacher)
- Mrs H Armstrong (Year 2 teacher)

All other staff and governors have been trained in Level 1 safeguarding and child protection. Mr Tait, Mr Rumbles and Mrs Armstrong regularly access additional training, for example in Female Genital Mutilation, Prevent, Online Safety, Child Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Violence.

Online Safety Information

There are many positives associated with the Internet and children are increasingly using the Internet for both education and play.

As a school, we believe that online safety education is a crucial element of the curriculum and an essential part of young people's development. To raise awareness of the issues that children and young people face online today, the school carries out many age appropriate activities, including participating in the 'Safer Internet Day' organised by the UK Safer Internet Centre as well as half termly e-safety lessons.

The UK Safer Internet Centre website contains information which is very useful for parents to support the work done in school and ensure that our children keep safe whilst using the ever-expanding growth of mobile technology.

The online safety section of our school website will provide you with links to really useful advice on how children can safely use the Internet together with some great tips on how to keep safe

Noticeboard

- Please inform the school office if there are any changes to personal contact details - for example addresses, phone numbers or emergency contacts.

Current Year 6 Pupils procedure to apply for a Secondary School in 2021

The application process for the Secondary Admissions 2021 Intake is due to begin on **Monday 14th September 2020**. Parents can make their application for Secondary School online by visiting www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and the School Admissions online application facility will be available to parents from **Monday the 14th of September 2020**.

The Closing Date for Secondary School Applications is the 31st October 2020.

If parents do not wish to apply online they can complete a paper application form, and these are available to print from our website (same website address as above) from Monday the 14th September 2020. Alternatively these application forms can be requested by e-mail to schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk or by telephone from the School Admissions and Transport Team on 03000 265896.

Copies of the Parent's guide "**Primary and Secondary School Admissions in County Durham 2021/2022**" will also be available from our website or on request from Monday the 14th September 2020. www.durham.gov.uk

Medical

- A reminder that we are only able to administer prescribed medications at school once parents have completed the required consent form. All medication must be delivered to and collected from the office by an adult.
- Packed Lunch Children – please ensure your child’s packed lunch is **NUT FREE** as we have children in the school who have an allergy to nuts.

Christian Values

We are exploring the value of creativity this half term.

Further information on the value of creativity:

Seen from a Christian perspective all of life is a ‘gift’, entrusted by God to humankind for a purpose. This purpose is glimpsed as the creative spirit within each person learns to value and explore, celebrate and enjoy this world in all its mystery and diversity. With this gift comes a mutual responsibility to ensure the creation is not spoiled, but rather sustained and shared by all.

We would like our children to continue their reflection and experience at home.

Some things to think about:

- How do we use the earth’s resources to meet our needs whilst still carrying out our duty of stewardship?
- What opportunities are there to meet creative people in various walks of life?
- Who might inspire and channel their own creativity?

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school. Shincliffece@durhamlearning.net

The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents’ section of the website.