

**Archibald First School**

Archibald Street  
Gosforth  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE3 1EB

1<sup>st</sup> September

Headteacher **Mrs R Turner**

0191 285 1957  
admin@archibald.newcastle.sch.uk  
www.archibaldfirstschool.org.uk

### **Plans for September 2021 - Updated September 1st**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to update you on the arrangements for September following the recent DfE announcements, in order to help you plan for the new term. If you would like more information, please refer to the link below which sets out the guidance to schools for September 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

This document was last updated on 27<sup>th</sup> August and may be updated again. We will be reviewing documents and adapting plans in line with the newest guidance and will communicate any changes to you (if required) as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

#### **UPDATED GUIDANCE**

We are delighted that the updated guidance prioritises the consistent delivery of face-to-face teaching and reducing the disruption to children's education.

As you may already know, the biggest change for schools in September is the removal of isolated class "bubbles". This will allow us to return to whole school gatherings, including assemblies, and a return to near normal lunchtime and playtime arrangements.

- From September 2021, we will be keeping children within Key Stages for playtimes i.e. Nursery and Reception together, Years 1 and 2 together, Years 3 and 4 together.
- Lunchtimes will be 11.30-12.30 for Nursery and Reception, 12.00-1.00 for Year 1 and 2, and 12.15-1.15 for Years 3 and 4.

In September children (or adults who are double vaccinated for at least 14 days) identified by NHS Test and Trace or a local team as "close contacts" will not need to isolate. Instead, they will be advised to take a PCR test.

Face coverings are no longer advised. In the event of an outbreak in school, the use of face coverings may be advised by Public Health along with the stepping up of other measures.

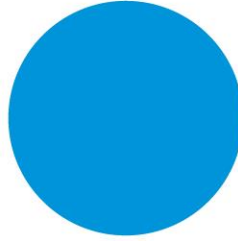
We will support any children or adults who would like to continue to wear a mask.

#### **RETURN FROM HOLIDAY**

Please remember if you have returned from a holiday or visit abroad, you **MUST** follow the government advice as to quarantine and testing applicable to the destination. Please do not return to school until the right time after your trip.

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## CONTINUED MEASURES

Despite the removal of some of the most restrictive measures mentioned above, schools still have a responsibility to have an appropriate health and safety risk assessment in place, therefore many of the protective measures are to remain in place to minimise transmission of the virus in school.

Measures we will continue to take are:

- Ensuring good hand hygiene – staff, children and visitors will continue to sanitise and wash hands regularly, including upon arrival and departure.
- Respiratory hygiene (“Catch it, bin it, kill it”) practices
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes including twice daily cleaning of high-touch surfaces.
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated – windows will remain open in all areas of school
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19
- Asymptomatic testing, twice weekly, for staff and confirmatory PCR tests

## ATTENDANCE

All children, including clinically extremely vulnerable children, should attend school unless they have been advised by their GP or clinician not to. School attendance is mandatory for all children and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible attend. Children isolating will be recorded as an X code and those with COVID-19 will be recorded as ill.

## ISOLATION

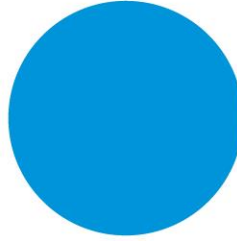
We will continue to support those who need to self-isolate because they have tested positive with remote education, if they are well enough, via Tapestry/Seesaw.

If you need support with self-isolation, Newcastle City Council’s Welfare and Wellbeing Team may be able to help you. If you can, you should try to seek help from your friends, family and community first, or look online at [www.newcastle.gov.uk](http://www.newcastle.gov.uk) for local support services. Where this is not possible, the Welfare and Wellbeing team can help.

Visit [www.newcastle.gov.uk/welfare](http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/welfare) or call 0800 170 7001 (8am-8pm Monday to Friday, 9am-3pm Saturday) to get the support you need. You may also be entitled to a Test and Trace Support Payment. Apply online at <https://newcastle.gov.uk/TestandTraceSupportPayments> (available until the 30 September 2021 only).

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## DROP OFF ARRANGEMENTS

From September, all classes will return to their normal drop off window **8:45 to 8:55am** as they did pre-covid. The doors will close at 8.55am and any children arriving after this time will need to enter school via the front office. Parents and Carers must sign them into school.

- Nursery will enter through the Nursery gates
- Reception classes will enter through the white outdoor classroom located in the yard.
- Children in Years 1 and 2 will enter via the cloakroom doors at the front of school nearest to the gazebo.
- Children in Years 3 and 4 will enter via the rear cloakroom doors next to the grassed area.

***For new nursery and reception starters please remember to check out your pack for your child's start / end times and dates as these will initially differ to the main school.***

## PICK UP FROM SCHOOL

All classes will leave school for collection at 3:15pm.

- Nursery will be collected from the Nursery door
- Reception classes will be collected from the white outdoor classroom located in the yard.
- Children in Year 1 will be collected from the cloakroom doors at the front of school nearest to the gazebo.
- Children in Year 2 will be collected from the main office doors.
- Children in Year 3 will be collected from the rear cloakroom doors next to the grassed area.
- Children in Year 4 will be collected from the fire exit doors to the side of the hall.

\*Any children who are not collected by 3:20pm will be taken to After School Club and parents charged accordingly.\*

\*\*As Year 2 will be leaving school via the main office entrance, we ask that anyone who needs to speak with the admin team do so before 3.15pm or after 3.20pm. This will enable us to see all the children out of school safely. Thank you\*\*

Please note that from September families are not to access the school car park at any point.

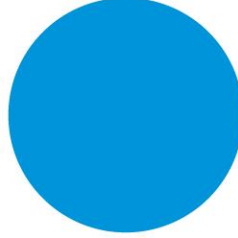
## BIKES/SCOOTERS

The bike and scooter park to the left of the school building will be open for all children to store their bike or scooter in. There are also some scooter pods located at the rear of school for those children in year 3 or 4.

Please note that we cannot accommodate adult bikes or scooters.

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## PE DAYS

Nursery and Reception do not need PE kits in the autumn term. They initially do PE in bare feet in the hall.

Years 1-4 will need plain royal blue shorts, a plain red t-shirt, plain navy or black tracksuit bottoms and trainers. A school jumper or cardigan can be worn but no other types of hoodies. We are asking the children in Years 1-4 to come into school dressed for PE on their PE days.

**If children attend clubs either before or after school, they must bring in their uniform, including school shoes, to change into before school or the kit to change into at the end of the school day.**

Anticipated PE Days are:-

Class 3 – Thursday and Friday

Class 4 – Wednesday and Friday

Class 5 - Monday and Tuesday

Class 6 – Monday and Tuesday

Class 7 – Tuesday and Friday

Class 8 – Monday and Thursday

Class 9 – Wednesday and Thursday

Class 10 - Tuesday and Thursday

## WALK TO/FROM SCHOOL

As always, we strongly encourage all our families to walk, bike or scoot to school. Our school catchment, on intake, is roughly 0.5 miles which hopefully means a healthy journey to and from school is a possibility for all of our families.

If you do need to use the car, please park sensibly and try to avoid Archibald Street and the back lane.

## FRONT OFFICE

We request that only one person enters the school office area at a time. Thank you.

## STAFF

A member of staff will always be at the entrance / exit doors for any quick messages to be handed over. If you need longer or a conversation in private, please make contact with the school office or email in. We can then schedule an appointment for you. We ask that all children enter school independently. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

The Archibald Team

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