



Head Teacher: Mrs SA Welsh  
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

## Newsletter Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### Welcome back:

School re-opens to pupil's tomorrow Tuesday 5th January 2021. We look forward to 2021 and hope the news of more vaccines will enable life and the school to return to as normal as possible as soon as possible. However, until then it is important that we remain alert and ensure we continue the fight against COVID together maintaining "Hands Face Space" at all times.

As Darlington, along with the rest of the North East, has now entered the higher level of Tier 4 we remind you that school is still open.

**It is absolutely essential, to keep everyone safe and avoid congestion outside the school, that you only come to school at your allocated time, not before.**

If you have more than one child in school, please stand 2 meters apart from other adults and make sure the pathway is clear for other parents/carers to pass. Please do not allow your child to run around the grass outside of the school.

If you have a child in reception and need to come onto the KS1 yard, please stand 2m away from other parents/carers and do not allow your child to run around.

**Please note - the Year 1 times have changed.**

Year Group	Start time	Finish time
Reception	8.50am	3.00pm
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>3.10pm</b>
Year 2	8.50am	3.00pm
Year 3	8.55am	3.05pm
Year 4	8.50am	3.00pm
Year 5	9.00am	3.10pm
Year 6	8.50am	3.00pm

**If your child starts at 8.55am or 9am please only come for 8.55am or 9am as this will allow for the parents of pupils who start at 8.50am to have dropped off and gone meaning less congestion and less chance of transmission of COVID.**

**Once you have dropped your child at school at 8.50am please leave site immediately to allow for the next time slot to arrive safely.**

Please continue to report any absences to the school office either by leaving a voicemail or sending a message via School Gateway. Please include in the message what your child's illness / symptoms are.



Head Teacher: Mrs SA Welsh  
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

**IMPORTANT:** if your child or anyone in your household has any symptoms of coronavirus you need to book a test for that person and ALL household members must isolate until results are received - please do not send your child to school while you are waiting for the results.  
If your child has been in contact with anyone (outside of the household) with symptoms and you are aware that they are having a test, please keep your child at home to isolate until their results come back.  
**IT is vital you or your child or anyone in the household who has COVID Symptoms does not come to school. You must get a test and the whole household must isolate.**

**IF you have been abroad over the school holidays please isolate as per the travel corridor regulations.**  
[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): travel corridors - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/travel-corridors)

#### **Asymptomatic testing:**

Testing is now available at the Dolphin Centre for people without COVID symptoms. A test can be booked on this website <https://www.darlington.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/public-health/coronavirus/covid-testing/>  
We strongly encourage everyone without symptoms to get a test as many people are transmitting COVID without being ill themselves.

#### **Bags/things for school:**

Please DO NOT send your child into school with bags or anything else from home. Water bottles, packed lunches and reading books only to be brought to school.  
Please DO NOT bring bikes or scooters.

#### **Isolation / Remote Learning:**

If your child needs to isolate, please inform the school office 01325 240499. Remote learning will be offered from day 2 of the isolation. If you have already informed us that your child does not have access to an electronic device, we will contact you to arrange the loan of a school device for the duration of isolation. However, please note, the loan of a device is limited as the Government only allowed us 38 laptops for this purpose.  
Please note if your child is unwell, they are not required to complete remote learning.

#### **Appointments:**

A reminder that if your child has an appointment during school hours please do not bring them mid-session.  
A morning appointment - bring your child to school at lunchtime.  
An afternoon appointment - please collect your child at lunchtime.

#### **Face coverings:**

A polite reminder to parents/carers to wear a face covering when entering the school premises (within the green fence). Please ensure you also wear a face covering when collecting from Breakfast or Afterschool club.  
Working together will enable us all to stay safe.



Head Teacher: Mrs SA Welsh  
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

### Contact with staff:

If you need to speak with your child's teacher or another member of staff, please telephone the office or email and you will be contacted. Please avoid having conversations at the gate/fence.

### Hand washing/soap/hand cream:

Our handwashing routines are now well established and the children are amazing at hand hygiene. We are however aware that COVID hand washing routines across school are making some children have sore hands. Please help us with this by reminding your child to wet their hands first, then apply the soap and then rinse. We have bought the mildest soap possible but to try and help reduce any discomfort children can bring a named, small tube of hand cream in to keep in their tray to apply to their hands.

### Parking Safety:

We cannot emphasise enough how important it is that cars park SAFELY. Please do not park across driveways. You must ensure you drive at a sensible speed and be vigilant as you are driving and parking so that you are always watching where children are walking. The safety of our children is paramount. So please park in a space, **do not** use the bus lane to wait.

### Childcare from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021:

Spring term sessions are now available on the School Gateway to book:

- **Breakfast** will operate 8.am to start of school and will cost £2.50 per session (whilst we receive the Greggs grant this will reduce to £2.30 per session).
- **After school** will operate end of school to 5.30pm and will cost £10.00 per session.

7 days' notice is required for all sessions which are non-refundable within 7 days. Please note if your child's bubble needs to isolate we will automatically cancel and refund from day 8 - you do not need to contact us. In the event of a whole school closure all childcare sessions will be cancelled and refunded.