

North Mead Primary Academy
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Principal: Mrs A Curran

Friday, 20th August, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are busily preparing to welcome all the children back to school on **Wednesday, 25th August**. We are really looking forward to seeing them and are hoping for a much more settled year of learning! We appreciate how well you have worked with us during the pandemic, and I know we will continue doing so moving forwards. Please take some time to read the information in this letter, which will prepare you for the return to school. There are some changes to arrangements in light of the latest government guidance for schools. We will continue to run enhanced cleaning and hygiene arrangements to keep everyone safe. To see a copy of our risk assessment, please visit our website [Coronavirus Advice - North Mead Primary Academy | Leicester | TMET \(north-tmet.uk\)](https://www.north-tmet.uk)

Timings, drop off and collection

We will now revert to our normal times of day for the start and end of school. The children are no longer required to stay in bubbles so we will not be operating a staggered start and finish model (unless we are advised to put these arrangements back in place in the case of a covid outbreak). We would encourage all parents to wear a mask on the playground still as it can get busy, but this is now your choice. Please note that parents are not yet allowed to come into school unless they have an appointment.

- Nursery starts at 8:45am and ends at 11:45am
Please drop the children off via the main playground on Northfield Road, and collect them from the gate on Gypsy Lane.
- School is open from 8:30, and children must be in by 8:50 at the latest.
We will no longer be operating an entry and exit system to avoid queuing. The gates will be closed at 9am, and any children arriving LATE will need to come to the front entrance and will be marked as late on the register.
- A free breakfast club, held in the dining hall, is available from 8am – please walk your child to the front of school so they can enter through the office Reception area. Please note that we cannot accommodate nursery children.
- All children will have a morning break time.

- Key Stage 1 children also have an afternoon break
- Home time is 3.15 pm (Reception is 3.05 pm)
The school gates will open at 3:00. Reception children will be collected from the gated playground, and all other children will stand with their class teacher on the playground – we will now be using the full playground.

Children in Year 5&6 will be allowed to leave their teacher to find the adult who is collecting them, or to walk home alone if you have permitted them to do so. If you have any concerns about this, please contact the class teacher on Class Dojo to let them know. Children who are being collected will be told to return to their teacher if they can't find their adult.

Children in Reception, Year 1, 2, 3 & 4 will need to be collected by an authorised adult – you must inform the office (office@north-tmet.uk and your child's class teacher if your child will not be collected by a parent. If someone arrives to collect your child and we do not know them, we will not let your child leave for safeguarding reasons.

YOU MUST COLLECT YOUR CHILD ON TIME FROM THE PLAYGROUND ON NORTHFIELD ROAD. IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY THAT MEANS YOU ARE LATE, YOU MUST RING THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON 0116 2767761. All staff are involved in meetings, planning, marking and preparation after school so we are not able to care for your child after hours unless there is an emergency.

Lunchtimes

Reception: 11:45-13:00

Years 1,2&3: 11:30-12:30

Years 4,5&6: 12:30-13:30

For the first few weeks while we monitor the situation with Covid 19, children will continue to eat separately in their classes. The menu for hot lunches is on the website, and is also on the School Gateway App. We are keeping a staggered lunch to give the children more space to play outside.

Children should stay for lunch at school wherever possible. Children who must go home for lunch need to be collected from the school office – please make sure you wait outside if the office is busy. Please also note that the car park at the front of school does not belong to us, and so we cannot park there unless you have a blue disabled badge.

Uniform and equipment

Children need to come to school in uniform - our full uniform list is here for reference:

<https://www.north-tmet.uk/parents/uniform/> Please contact our family support worker, Jill Hurst, if you are having any difficulties with this.

Your child's teacher will tell you when the class PE days are so that you can send your child in PE kit on those days – we will not be asking any children to change in school.

The only equipment that your child will need is a packed lunch (if not having school dinners), a water bottle, a coat and suitable shoes for outdoor exercise. We will be doing regular exercise sessions as part of our curriculum to keep us all healthy (outdoors as much as possible). The coat may be also worn inside in cold weather – part of our risk assessment says that windows in classrooms are left open a small amount at all times to reduce the risk of virus transmission. Please do not send your child with anything else – all stationery will be provided.

Staying safe and keeping well

Please take a few moments to share the latest **Bug Busting Classroom Routines** with your children – we will still be insisting on these in school:

- We make sure our classroom has fresh air by keeping windows open
- We wash or sanitise our hands when we come into and leave the classroom
- We wash or sanitise our hands when we've been to the toilet
- We wash or sanitise our hands before and after play and lunch
- If we sneeze, cough or blow our nose we use a tissue to CATCH IT, BIN IT, KILL IT, we put it in the lidded bin and then we wash or sanitise our hands
- We use our own stationery
- When we've finished reading a book, we put it in the class quarantine box and not back on the shelf.

Covid symptoms, positive cases, isolation & testing

- Staff at school will test twice themselves twice weekly.
- If your child has symptoms of Covid 19, do not send them to school. If they develop symptoms at school, we will ask you to collect them and do a PCR test. Your child will be free to return if the test is negative.
- We will not send home a whole class if someone tests positive. You will be informed that there has been a positive case and advised that your child undertakes a PCR test. Unless your child is positive or shows symptoms, they should continue to attend school.
- Please note that we are required to follow all updated government guidance, so there may be future changes that occur.

Please do not hesitate to contact us via Class Dojo with any queries or concerns you may have or ring the school office between the hours of 8 and 3:30pm from Tuesday, 24th August. Mrs Hurst, our family support worker, is also available to provide support and can be contacted via the school office. We can't wait to welcome you all back to North Mead!

Kind Regards,



Alex Curran
Principal

