



15th July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Arrangements from 2nd September 2021

Summer is nearly here and as we draw this academic year to a close, I wanted to thank you so much for all of your understanding and support this year. We do not underestimate how hard it has been for you as parents/carers and we appreciate how careful you have been, which has meant that the impact of isolations has been far less than many other local schools have experienced. As you are aware, restrictions are lifting on the 19th July, however, cases in schools, especially in the North East region, are currently very high. It is expected that the summer holidays will act as a 'fire-break', but no one can be certain about what the situation will be by 2nd September. We have made some changes to our school day, particularly to try and make it easier for parents/carers who have two or more children, but we are still being cautious and putting the safety of children and staff first.

We will be continuing with regular hand-washing/hand sanitising. Staff will still be self-testing twice a week and will wear visors when they are in public spaces such as corridors and when in close proximity to parents/carers. As you will imagine, we have given considerable thought to our planning and, as always, we will be trying to maintain a sensible balance and we will be keeping the children's well-being at the forefront of everything we do. Again, we do not know what is around the corner, so should Government advice change between now and September we will let you know as soon as we can (but please remember that schools are often frustratingly given news at exactly the same time as parents!)

Drop off/pick up

Although restrictions will have eased, we really want to avoid large numbers of people gathering around the school. So, we very politely ask all parents and carers to strictly follow these arrangements, because they will be in place to minimise the risk to everyone:

Class	Teacher	Drop off		Pick up	
		Gate	Time	Gate	Time
Nursery	Mrs Cornwell	Main Gate	8.45	Main Gate	3.30
			12.30		3.30
Snowdonia	Miss Jackson	KS1	8.35	KS1	3.05
Pennines	Mrs Cavey/Mrs Dunn	KS1	8.45	KS1	3.15
Lake Windermere	Mr Banner	KS1	8.45	KS1	3.15
Cotswolds	Mr Singh	KS1	8.45	KS1	3.15
Lindisfarne	Miss Jivraj	Main gate	8.40	Main Gate	3.10
Stonehenge	Ms Wright	Main gate	8.40	Main Gate	3.10
Hadrian's Wall	Mrs Jones	Main gate	8.40	Main Gate	3.10
Dartmoor	Mrs Brady	KS2	8.40	KS2	3.10
Giant's Causeway	Mrs Dickenson	KS2	8.40	KS2	3.10
Loch Ness	Mr Roberts	KS2	8.40	KS2	3.10

Chilton Academy

Eden Learning Trust



- When dropping off please wear a face covering if you are in close proximity to members of staff.
- Only staff and children will be allowed onto the school premises. Anyone on school premises will be asked to wear a face covering/visor. Again, we will aim to get back to normality with parents coming into school as soon as we can!

Attendance

The school's target for **attendance is to exceed 97%**. Attendance and lateness will be strictly monitored. It is certainly the case, that poor attendance does hold a child back at school and I therefore ask that you do all you can to promote the importance of high attendance. Please be aware that I am unable to authorise holidays during term time and therefore holidays during school weeks will be classified as unauthorised unless exceptional circumstances prevail. Punctuality is also important and monitored very closely next year with rewards for those children who consistently arrive at school on time.

During the day

KS1 and KS2 will continue to have separate playtimes, with Y3/4 playing in a separate zone to Y5/6.

All children will eat lunch in the hall, but timings will still be staggered. The children will go outside to play; Reception, Y1/2, Y3/4 and Y5/6 will continue to be in separate zones.

Infection Protection and Control

It will be just as important, in order to minimise the spread of Covid-19, that any child with symptoms, or living with someone who is displaying symptoms of the virus, does not attend school and that the family complies with guidelines on testing and isolation. Although whole classes will not be isolating if one child tests positive, we will need to monitor the situation closely should there be a larger outbreak. If a child does present with symptoms of Covid-19 whilst in school, they will still be isolated and parents/carers will be contacted to come and collect them immediately. We will continue with thorough and regular cleaning and with ensuring rooms are well ventilated.

School Uniform

I would like to thank you for your continued support of the school's uniform policy. The appearance and smart dress of our students is a basic standard for the excellent ethos in our school. Where children are not in correct uniform then parents will be informed by staff. Please see the class transition booklets and school website for a reminder of the school uniform.

Your child will need:

- A named water bottle
- A coat and/or sun hat, depending on the weather forecast

Please don't send your child into school with anything else including pencil cases, etc.



The children will come to school in P.E kits on their P.E. days. This year we have introduced sports jackets, hoodies and tracksuit bottoms which can be worn on P.E. days.

PE days are as follows:

Class	Teacher	PE days
Snowdonia	Miss Jackson	Tuesday and Thursday
Pennines	Mrs Cavey/Mrs Dunn	Wednesday and Friday
Lake Windermere	Mr Banner	Monday and Friday
Cotswolds	Mr Singh	Tuesday and Friday
Lindisfarne	Miss Jivraj	Tuesday and Thursday
Stonehenge	Ms Wright	Tuesday and Thursday
Hadrian's Wall	Mrs Jones	Tuesday and Thursday
Dartmoor	Mrs Brady	Monday and Wednesday
Giant's Causeway	Mrs Dickenson	Monday and Wednesday
Loch Ness	Mr Roberts	Monday and Wednesday

Communication

- All communications will continue to be sent via ParentPay and Class Dojo.
- Please report any absences to the office only by 8.30am – please ring the office or email chilton@durhamlearning.net . Do not report absence via Class Dojo.
- To ensure a work/life balance for staff, they will not be answering dojo messages before 8.00am or after 4.30pm. Should there be an emergency outside of school hours please email c.dodsworth@chilton.durham.sch.uk
- Any other queries can be emailed to chilton@durhamlearning.net – again this is only during school hours, or ring the school office.
- Please remember to look on the school website/Twitter or the whole school dojo page for any events happening in school.

Class Dojo

We are currently setting up the new classes – watch out for a message from the new teachers before the children start on the children's new class pages. We have ensured that on Thursday 2nd September and Friday 3rd September the children will have 2 full days of fun getting to know each other (and their new teachers). We are incredibly frustrated that the usual transition activities could not take place due to bubbles and staff absences.

Thank you for taking the time to familiarise yourself with the information in this letter. Although this has once again been a somewhat difficult year we look forward to easier and happier times ahead. The summer break is a time where we can all reset and re-focus and put these most unique and unprecedented times behind us.



Huge thanks to all of the Chilton team for their unwavering resilience during an incredibly difficult year. We've had a year unlike any other and I am honoured have joined such a caring and dedicated group of people.

The teaching staff have ensured the school remained a safe and welcoming place for pupils, despite many of them feeling anxious and worried themselves.

The office staff have helped me immensely - keeping me on track with new parts of my role as Headteacher.

Mr. McAllister, the kitchen, lunchtime and cleaning staff have worked tirelessly to keep the building clean and safe. Huge thanks to them all.

And finally, our incredible children. They've had relentless temperature checks, handwashing and hand-sanitising with the lack of freedom and normal school days brought about by bubbles. They are the true heroes of the pandemic so their recovery over the next few years is the highest priority the school has.

I hope you have an enjoyable and relaxing summer break and I look forward to seeing you in the 2021-2022 academic year. Once again, huge thanks for your support during my first year as Headteacher – it certainly has been one to remember, but I am so lucky to work amongst your beautiful children! Have a lovely Summer and see you all on Thursday 2nd September.

Kindest regards

Carrie Dodsworth
Headteacher