

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

## Return to School Information

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope you all had a restful and well deserved break over half term.

We were pleased to hear the Prime Minister's plans for the road map out of lockdown yesterday, and in particular, the proposal for all children to return to school on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**.

This letter is to briefly outline the return to school arrangements for the Federation and each Head of School will write to you with their specific school plans and key information for you, e.g. start and finish times, gates etc. As in the Autumn Term, to reduce unnecessary interaction, each year group will be a 'specific bubble' and their contact with other bubbles will be minimized to ensure a high level of safety.

**Daubeney, Sebright and Lauriston Primary Schools will open to all children on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.**

In preparation for the children to return on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February, the remote learning provision for **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March** will be adapted. Head of Schools will update individual school communities.

**Therefore, each school will be closed for children on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March. This includes all key worker and vulnerable children.**

As you will appreciate, for many of the staff, they have not been in classrooms for ten weeks and there is much work to do to ensure classrooms and resources are available for a full and successful start back to school.

The Government guidance states that attendance for *all* pupils is mandatory and children are expected to attend school each day. We understand for many families, this will cause some anxiety and we are keen to help and support you and your child/ren back to school.

A small number of children will still be unable to attend school in line with public health advice to self-isolate because they have symptoms, a positive test result, live with someone who has symptoms or tested positive or are in close contact with someone who has Covid 19. This also applies to children who are clinically extremely vulnerable. For specific children or those having to self-isolate, remote learning will still apply.

The focus for the remaining weeks of the Spring Term is to ensure all children are settled back at school and ready for learning. For many, this will be a big change once again for them, and so our pastoral and wellbeing focus will be essential for a smooth transition. Alongside this will be the assessment of each child to ensure we know where they are in terms of progress made and/or any gaps in their learning so we can plan next steps and any catch up required. Each school will prioritise the core subjects in Reading, Writing and Maths, but also ensure there is a creative and cross curricular focus for the children.

I have been really pleased to observe the level of care and health and safety for the children, staff and parents this term. It is important we continue to be vigilant with our risk assessment and measures across each site. This will include continuing to maintain social distancing, the continued twice weekly testing of school staff, keeping rooms properly ventilated, arranging classroom furniture safely, children having their

own resources in class, in addition to the promotion of good hygiene and handwashing. Each school risk assessment will be updated accordingly.

More specific school information will follow from the Heads of School. In the meantime, we will be busy preparing for your children to come back properly. We are very excited to have an almost normal school environment once again and I thank you for your cooperation and support so far and in making the final steps towards a successful 8<sup>th</sup> March start.

Keep smiling everyone. Not long to go!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robin Warren". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robin Warren  
Executive Head Teacher  
Federation of Daubeney, Sebright and Lauriston Primary Schools - @DauSebLauExecHT