



Monday 23rd March

Information for Emergency Childcare Places

Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all, I would like to reassure you that the children who have been in today have settled well and have made a good start to this new and uncertain time in school.

I am grateful, and relieved, that some of you who accepted an offer of a place on Friday, have not taken it up. This supports our aim to have as few people in school as possible. With small numbers, we are able to distance the children more effectively and supervise them more carefully to make sure that there is proper handwashing etc. **In line with very the clear government advice, if a child does not need to be in school, then they should not be.**

Now that the whirlwind of Friday has passed and we are able to reflect and begin to plan, please take note of the following:

Clothing

Children are not required to wear uniform. We have decided that they will better prepared for our activities if they come into school wearing casual/sporty clothes and trainers. We will not be changing during the day and we want the children to be comfortable and safe to play and have PE on the field and yard. We are also asking that **all clothing is washed every night** and the children are wearing clean clothes each day. Long hair should be tied up and no jewellery or unnecessary accessories should be worn or brought to school. Children will need a warm waterproof coat as we will be outdoors as much as possible.

Books

We are not allowing any exchange of items from home to school so for this period, children are not bringing books home to read and nor can they bring books or any other items from home. This is so that we can minimise the opportunities for the virus to be transmitted via objects. There will be lots of stories in school and it would be great to keep reading going at home too, although we know how busy you are so don't worry about learning.

Contact Details

Please make sure that you are contactable during the day so that we can contact you in the event of your child being unwell. If children become unwell or develop any symptoms (cough/temperature) we will isolate them from the rest of the group and contact you to come and collect them immediately.

Contacting school

If you have a message or a question for us, please email us admin@archibald.newcastle.sch.uk rather than talking to us when the children arrive or when you pick up. We are really trying hard to keep distance between adults.

Part Time Places

If your child is attending the offer of a place on a part time basis, please email us and let us know which days you need the place each week. Messages can also be sent and received on the number 07951058767.

We need to be informed by 11.00am on the Thursday of the previous week regarding the following week. Therefore, please confirm details by 26th regarding the week beginning the 30th.

Timings

If you are not leaving for work until 12.00pm, please do not bring your child to school until the latest possible time. We are aiming to have the children in school for the least possible time.

Arrival at School /Collection

Please come to the main school doors between 8.45am and 9.00am. Someone will be inside to open the door and tell the children where they are going for the day.

Children must be picked up from the yard at 3.15pm promptly. This is so that you and the children can spread out in the space. Please email school to let us know who will be collecting your child.

The school grounds will be closed immediately after the children have gone home therefore no late pick-ups can be accepted.

Social Distancing

Please take seriously the advice to to distance yourself from others as much as you can. We also ask that when the children are not in school, they are kept as safe as possible and do not mix with others as far as is possible. Children should not be visiting each other's houses during this time.

Consideration and Respect

Places will be withdrawn if we are informed that social distancing and isolation are not being strictly observed or if we are informed that child care at home is available. We are also requesting that if families are aware of this that they inform us out of respect for our staff, their families and the children who require this critical childcare.

I cannot reiterate enough that this is critical childcare and not day-care.

The situation in the community and in school will change every day and we will be as flexible as possible as well as continuing to learn how to make the current situation work. Please be patient and please keep up to date with our communications from school. Thank you for your support.

Best wishes

Rebecca Turner

Headteacher