



Archibald First School

Archibald Street
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 1EB

Headteacher **Mrs R Turner**

0191 285 1957
admin@archibald.newcastle.sch.uk
www.archibaldfirstschool.org.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write to you, we are still uncertain as to what school may look like in September. Like you, we are waiting for information as well as confirmation but in the meantime we continue to think positively and are planning for us all to be back together.

I realise that many of us are extremely anxious about our children's education and how this may look after a significant period of time away from school. I therefore wanted to share with you some of our plans and initial thoughts.

- As a school, we will prioritise children's emotional wellbeing and mental health. It is crucial that our children feel safe and happy in school, that they are given the opportunity to talk about the last few months and that they feel supported. We will therefore have a greater weekly emphasis on Personal Social Health Education (PSHE).
- We will focus on developing our relationships with our new classes and you as parents.
- We will prioritise re-establishing good learning behaviours in the first weeks of reopening.
- As a school we will employ a 'recovery curriculum'. This will be designed to support children to regain their knowledge. In addition to the above, this will focus on children's speaking and listening, reading, phonics and key maths skills. But... we will do this without losing our broad and balanced curriculum. The children will continue to have their PE lessons, Spanish, Computing and topic work etc. We will continue to make links between subjects and select themes to engage and motivate.
- In preparation for this, timetables have been carefully planned to maximise the support within classes and enable us to establish small group / 1-1 intervention where needed.
- During Autumn 1, each year group will focus on the curriculum key skills of the previous year group. As the teachers share information with your children's new teachers, this will also include what still needs to be covered as well as anything that will need recapping.
Some examples are:
 - Year 1 children will have access to extended play sessions, indoor and outdoor learning, role play etc to reflect the provision in EYFS.
 - Year 3 will deliver discrete phonics lessons to complete the curriculum from year 2 before moving onto new skills.

Finally, we will help your children to adjust to any changes made and most importantly we will work to support each and every one of them from their own individual starting points on return to school.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Turner

Having fun, achieving excellence.

Successful learners. Confident individuals. Responsible citizens.