



Spires Federation

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Emma Negus - Hill

Our Core Values are Respect, Honesty, Hope, Wisdom and Communication

Email: Admin@SpiresFederation.co.uk Website: SpiresFederation.co.uk
Twitter: @DigbyPrimary @DunstonPrimary @NoctonPrimary



Friday 15th May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some information regarding the proposed phased return as outlined by the Government earlier this week. As a federation we have been trying to work out the logistics of the guidance and make sure that we can open as safely as possible for all children and all staff. We have to adhere to numerous restrictions in terms of pupil numbers, social distancing, hygiene and ensure that the health, safety and well-being of everyone is the priority. I have liaised with the Local Authority and other schools and ensure that what we are proposing is appropriate. I am sure that you can appreciate, we have had to carry out a thorough risk assessment and we have made sure that all measures that will be put in place are rigorous.

The government guidance states that primary schools are, 'to welcome back children in nursery (where they have them), reception, year 1 and year 6', as well as children of Key workers and Vulnerable pupils. This excludes those who are classed as medically vulnerable. However, this is still parental choice. You decide if your children attend school-you decide what is best for them. However, we would like to reassure you that if you do decide that you would like your child to attend, we have put in place rigorous measures to keep them and the staff safe.

Following the returns from the parent/carer questionnaire that we sent out this week, we have been able to make plans based on approximate numbers of pupils who will be on the school site if the proposed opening takes place on 1st June 2020.

We will be contacting the parents/carers of the pupils who will be attending NEXT WEEK to let them know further details of the proposed start date, groupings and timings.

However, we know that eventually other year groups may also have a phased return before the end of the year so I thought it important to share the arrangements with everyone.

Digby Church of England School,
Church Street, Digby, Lincoln. LN4 3LZ
Ph: 01526 320630
Registered charity: 1045696

Dunston St Peter's Church of England School,
Back Lane, Dunston, Lincoln. LN4 2EH
Ph: 01526 320027
Registered charity: 1045951

Nocton Community School,
School Lane, Nocton, Lincoln. LN4 2BJ
Ph: 01526 320234
Registered charity: 1047895





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I can confirm that we will open all 3 school sites. The school day will be very different to a normal day. In order to meet the government advice issued in this document:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020/actions-for-education-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>

Schools have considered this document and are outlining the following information:

Arrival/Collection:

- Parents will not be permitted on the school site and will not be allowed to gather at the school gates
- Start and finish times will be staggered for pupils to ensure that we adhere to social distancing measures
- Social distancing measures will be in place for parents when at drop off/pick up times
- Only 1 parent/carer permitted to bring/collect child/ren
- Staff on the gates will be wearing face mask/covers/visors

Resources:

- NO UNIFORM IS REQUIRED-children can wear active wear or uniform is preferred (we appreciate that many of the children will have outgrown it and you don't want the expense of buying more this term!)
- NO PE KITS-children will not be allowed to get changed in school (in case they accidentally mix up clothes with each other)
- NO TOYS/RESOURCES/EQUIPMENT TO BE BROUGHT IN FROM HOME
- NO BOOK BAGS/HOME LEARNING will be permitted to reduce cross contamination from home to school

Site organisation:

- Signage will be used to remind all parents/pupils and staff of the need to socially distance and adhere to the restrictions in use
- All tables will be labelled with pupil names
- All tables will be 2 metres apart
- Corridors (where appropriate) will have a one way system operation and a divider marked out to aid with this
- Movement around school will be restricted/timetabled to avoid group mixing and cross contamination

Pupil Groups:

- Group sizes will be no more than 15, but limited to staff and room availability

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- Children will be allocated a table, socially distanced from other pupils and will keep their coat/lunch under their chair
- Pupils will not be allowed to share resources and equipment or bring in any from home
- Unused equipment/toys and soft furnishings will be removed from each space
- Pupils will be looked after by different adults-not necessarily their current teacher
- Pupils will be only permitted to be in one room during the day (this won't necessarily be their classroom)
- No whole school Collective worship/assemblies

Hygiene:

- Toilets will be allocated/labelled for each group and visits limited and or timetabled to avoid groups mixing (this will vary in each school as facilities are different)
- There will be lessons and reminders on hygiene through the day-visual and verbal reminders will be used for hand-washing and social distancing
- No PPE will be worn-but all staff will have a set in case requires
- Hand sanitiser used on entry and exit to all rooms
- A good supply of disposable tissues in each room to implement the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach in each classroom
- Rooms well ventilated-windows and doors open
- Isolation room available in case anyone shows symptoms

Lunch/playtimes:

- Lunchtimes and play times will be staggered
- Lunch will be served in the classroom with their group where possible-if hall used children will be socially distanced
- No lunchboxes are permitted-if you are supplying a packed lunch this must be in a disposable bag/cover
- No water bottles permitted-drinks from home to be supplied in disposable bottles/cartons

Curriculum:

- Outdoor learning will take place whenever possible
- Schools will provide a curriculum that focuses on well-being and ensures all pupils individual and emotional needs are met-we are going to focus on one theme across the federation, for all ages, which is to be 'Egyptians'.
- The curriculum will be adapted to reduce coverage while transition to full education for pupils is in progress.
- Staff will identifying gaps, particularly those related to access to home schooling and differing approached between being at home and at school.
- Opportunities for pupils to share their home and school experiences as an integrated part of their current education

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Other information:

- Parents will **not** be fined for non-attendance at this time
- Due to the restrictions with the new guidance, we are very sorry that **we cannot** offer Before and After School Club (the government guidance states that only 1 member of staff should have contact with pupils during the day)
- No other visitors permitted on the school site, this includes coaches, music teachers etc
- The Behaviour Policy and school rules will be adapted to reflect the changes and will be shared with you before 1st June.

We await government confirmation if schools will open as the proposal states on 1st June. We will be constantly reviewing and revisiting our risk assessments and arrangements if the government guidance changes during this time and following re-opening.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR ON-GOING SUPPORT AND PATIENCE-WE KNOW THIS IS A VERY CHALLENGING TIME FOR EVERYONE.

We honestly cannot wait to see everyone when it eventually happens!

Stay healthy, stay safe, stay alert.

Kind regards,

Mrs Emma Negus-Hill

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