



# The Federation of The Downs & Northbourne Church of England Primary Schools



*Chair of Governors: Dr A Eyden  
Vice Chair of Governors: Rev D Ridley*

*"if you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible."  
(Matthew: 17 v20)*

**The Downs CEP School**  
Owen Square, Walmer  
Kent CT14 7TL  
Tel: 01304 372486 Fax: 01304 380471  
Website: [www.downs.kent.sch.uk](http://www.downs.kent.sch.uk)

*Head Teacher: Miss T Leighton  
Deputy Head: Ms N Luxford  
SENCO: Mrs N Barnes  
Safeguarding Lead: Mr M Turner*

**Northbourne CEP School**  
Northbourne, Deal  
Kent CT14 0LP  
Tel: 01304 611376 Fax: 01304 621938  
Website: [www.northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk](http://www.northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk)

*Head Teacher: Mr M Reynolds  
SENCO: Mrs K Morrison  
Safeguarding Lead: Mr M Turner*

1<sup>st</sup> September 2020

## Welcome back to school – September 2020

I am so pleased to welcome everybody back to school. It is fantastic that we are together again as a whole school community. I hope that you have all had a refreshing summer, that the sun has restored you, and that you feel ready for a new academic year.

Everyone at school has been working hard to ensure that we are ready for the new way of working and meeting the requirements of minimising the risks spreading this relentless pandemic.

In the first few weeks learning will be driven by the needs of the children and initially will focus on personal, social and wellbeing. Term one will also focus on covering the work from terms 5 and 6, ready to launch our themed learning from term two.

I am sure that some families have experienced challenges in the last few months and I ask that you return the form which was included with transition booklets/reports (also attached here as a reminder). We want to help ensure as smooth a transition as possible for us all.

### Back to school arrangements:

#### Timings

It will be necessary for us to operate a staggered start and finish time. It will be important that children arrive at the given time and at the given entrance. Parents will not be able to enter through the gates. We would also encourage only one parent to pick up and drop off to reduce any unnecessary gathering outside the school.

At the start or end of day, if there is a queue of parents then please observe social distancing at all time, just as you do when you go shopping. There is tape attached to our school railings to assist with this. Please bear with us as it will be a slower process to dismiss at the end of the day.

#### Start of day arrangements

- |        |                                                                                                                     |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8.45am | Year 6 to enter via the Goodwin playground gate<br>Year 5 to enter via the lower school gate (off Blossom car park) |
| 9.00am | Year 4 to enter via the Goodwin playground gate<br>Year 3 to enter via the lower school gate (off Blossom car park) |
| 9.15am | Year 2 to enter via the Goodwin playground gate<br>Year 1 to enter via the lower school gate (off Blossom car park) |



Initially our reception children are on a different timetable until week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> September and this will be communicated separately.

### End of day arrangements

3.00pm	Year 6 to exit via the Goodwin playground gate Year 5 to exit via the lower school gate (off Blossom car park)
3.15pm	Year 4 to exit via the Goodwin playground gate Year 3 to exit via the lower school gate (off Blossom car park)
3.30pm	Year 2 to exit via the Goodwin playground gate Year 1 to exit via the lower school gate (off Blossom car park)

### What children need to bring/can bring to school

- Water bottle – children **MUST** bring their own water bottle to school
- Healthy snack for break times
- A school bag
- Lunch box
- Coat
- Hand sanitizer – we have plenty of soap and water but if you would prefer your child to use a hand sanitizer they may bring one to school. It must be named and kept in their school bag
- Reading books will be able to go to and from school but will be rotated so books do not go from one house to another within 72 hours
- Face coverings – these are not needed in school but if your child wears one to/from school, and it is reusable, then a named plastic bag (such as a sandwich bag) needs to be provided – or take it home with you and bring it back at the end of the day.
- Year 5 and 6 may bring their mobile phone once they have completed a mobile phone agreement and are walking home without an adult. A named plastic bag (such as a sandwich bag) needs to be provided to put the phone in to before it is handed to the class teacher for safe keeping during the day.

### Uniform/PE

Pupils are to wear full summer uniform, including school shoes, when we return in September; however, on PE days your child will be able to come to school in their school PE kit.

Your child also needs to be wearing clothes they can manage themselves. Staff cannot do up zips or tie shoelaces so please dress the children appropriately. So if your child is yet to learn how to tie their shoe laces please do not buy lace up school shoes.

Please remember to name everything.

We would recommend that your child changes out of their uniform as soon as they get home at the end of the school day.

### Lunches

Reception, Year One and Year Two children are entitled to a universal free school meal and our kitchen will provide a hot meal in takeaway containers that will be eaten in classrooms for every child that would like one in these year groups.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 - We are asking **all** pupils in these year groups to bring a packed lunch unless your child is entitled to a free school meal. Our kitchen will provide a hot meal for free school meal children in takeaway containers that will be eaten in classrooms.

### Breakfast club

This will operate from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. We will have to limit the number of places we can offer. This means we will be operating a **priority, pre-booked** and **pre-paid** booking system. The booking form is now available on our school website: About Us/Breakfast club. Places will be allocated by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

### Communication



Any communications and messages for school staff will need to come via a phone call, text or email as staff cannot be available for conversations and queries at arrival or departure times. All visits in to the school need to be by pre-arranged agreement/appointment. Health checks will be in place at the office for all visitors.

### Health

Please remember that if your child shows any sign of feeling unwell that they must not come to school. Please ensure that you phone the school and inform them of any illness on the day. If your child is taken ill at school we will contact you immediately and ask that a family member comes immediately to take them home.

### Back to school support from the DFE

Parents are encouraged to visit [www.gov.uk/backtoschool](http://www.gov.uk/backtoschool) for information and practical guidance to help plan for your child's return to school. This includes their latest update to the guidance for parents and carers on what they need to know about early year's providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term.

Coronavirus is still with us and we need to work together to ensure that our school remains open to ALL pupils once we return in September. We are working hard so that the new academic year starts positively and that everybody feels welcome, safe and enthusiastic. Please do not hesitate to contact me or staff with any comments and concerns.

Happy back to school day is **Wednesday 2nd September 2020**. See you all at the gate!

Yours sincerely

Miss T Leighton  
Head Teacher

