



# Northfield St. Nicholas Primary Academy

St Margaret's Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 4HN

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Headteacher: Mr. I. W. Owens



Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. J. Catchpole

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. T. Freeman

## Tuesday 1st September 2020

Term Starts **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September\*** *\*EYFS parents have been given their child's start date if different.*  
**Nursery return Monday 7th September**

Dear Parents /Carers

The new academic year begins on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, we are looking forward to inviting everyone back into school for the autumn term. Due to the fast and ever changing information, advice and guidance around education and the COVID19 pandemic we informed you at the end of the Summer Term that we would not be sending out any further information until the start of September. This was to ensure the communication was as up to date as possible and to avoid confusion over the summer break.

Please find below all the information you should need to be able to help you and your children return to engaging with school routines and the current 'new normal' that we are all faced with. As a school we are trying to follow all national and local guidance as carefully as we can and with as little disruption as possible and attempting to keep all changes to a minimum. We attempt to adopt a common sense approach when implementing guidance that needs to be personalised to our specific setting and local circumstances.

As you are aware these are unprecedented times and we are all on a massive learning curve in an attempt to get things 'right', despite the fact we need to acknowledge there may not be a particular 'right' way of doing any of this. Clearly there is no blueprint we have to follow and no one solution that will satisfy everyone. Therefore we would kindly ask that we all try to be patient with one another and be as kind as possible in the coming weeks because one thing we can be sure of is that the 'new normal' is far from normal. The guidance and advice we are all being given is likely to change whilst we continue to operate a school that both keeps children safe and helps them to learn as best as we all can.

Lots of things have changed over the last 6 months but many things about NSN remain the same.

- We have the same start times (but doors will stay open up to 8.55am) although all year groups can now be picked up between anytime 3.15-3.30 to help ease on site congestion.
- There is unfinished construction work to provide direct access to the Year 3 classrooms. This will be completed shortly.
- There is a new gate at the back of school to help facilitate a new one way system in and out of the rear playground area.
- EYFS families will access school via the side entrance by the Nursery entrance door.
- The access gates to the side drive to Poplars will be closed to parent traffic and manned by staff at key times to ensure this driveway is as car free as possible.

LOOK SMART, THINK SMART, BE SMART.

*The Northfield St Nicholas way !*

**Learning Leadership Enjoyment Responsibility Inspiration Inclusion Integrity**





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- Children will not be asked to line up before school, instead we request they come directly into school from the playground between 8.40 and 8.55 am like we used to on very rainy days.
- We would ask parents to try to avoid congregating in groups in the playground wherever possible and recommend adults wear face coverings whilst on the school site as it may become hard to maintain social distancing at key entry and exit points.
- School staff on gate duty may also wear face coverings if appropriate at busy times or if in close contact with high volumes of parents.
- **Children do not need to wear face coverings at any time at school and national guidance recommends they do not wear face coverings in school.**

Children will be learning in class bubbles and will be part of a larger year group bubble at playtimes and lunchtimes – more details included below. Almost everything you need to know is included in this communication. Our expectations around conduct and learning behaviours, punctuality and school uniform, in principle will remain the same.

We are looking forward to seeing the children return to school and looking forward to the school feeling like a school again.

We hope you had a wonderful summer break. Welcome back to NSN.

**The Senior Leadership Team.**

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