



## Athersley South Primary School

Wakefield Road, Barnsley, S71 3TP

Tel: 01226 284223

[www.athersleysouthprimary.co.uk](http://www.athersleysouthprimary.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs E. Sanderson  
Deputy Headteacher: Mr J. Wheelwright



Dear Parents and Carers

### Welcome back!

I would like to begin this letter by saying how wonderful it has been to see our whole school return this week and to recognise how fantastic all our pupils have been. We are really proud of them all for how well they have coped with the changes that have been implemented 😊. Despite many unknowns, some anxieties and a few nerves it has been lovely to see the school brimming again with happy, smiling children and to feel a 'buzz' around the building. I would also like to thank you for your patience and understanding this week with the changes we have had to implement and the one way system. Although the long walk round school may feel like an inconvenience, it is a way of avoiding staggered start/finish times as I appreciate how difficult this may have been for Parents/Carers with children in different classes and childcare arrangements. As we are all adjusting, it would seem that the system is beginning to work well but in order for it to do so please can I politely request that only **ONE** family member accompanies a child onto the school grounds. This is **essential** if we are to minimise the footfall around the site. We ALL need to work together and I would appreciate your co-operation with this request. Access to the site before 8.35am is not appropriate as we cannot have groups congregating on the playground, please time try to time your arrival to take account of this and that doors will be closed at **8.55am** for safeguarding purposes. I would also seek to remind you that social distancing is everyone's responsibility. Please adhere to the guidance whilst on school grounds.

### Breakfast Club

You will all have received correspondence about Breakfast Club this week. Please be aware that further requests for places will not now be possible for the time being in order for us to comply with current guidelines. If you requested a place, you will be contacted separately regarding arrangements.

### School Office

Please be aware that the school office will not be accessible to Parents for the foreseeable future. This is part of our risk assessment controls as we seek to keep our site as safe as is possible in the current climate. The school office can be contacted by telephone on 01226 284223 or via email [athersleysouthadmin@ecmtrust.co.uk](mailto:athersleysouthadmin@ecmtrust.co.uk). Please be aware however that while we will endeavour to check this mailbox daily, this cannot be guaranteed so if your reason for contact is urgent, you should contact school via telephone.

### New School Website

Following our conversion to academy status in July we are excited to announce that we now have a new school website [www.athersleysouth-primary.co.uk](http://www.athersleysouth-primary.co.uk) (please be aware the address is very similar to the old one, the only difference being the hyphen!). From this point forward all information will be posted on the new website, including copies of any letters sent home, and the old website will become obsolete. I hope that you will find the new website easier to navigate and more user friendly. All information of a Covid nature can be found on one page and other information will be regularly updated and work by the children celebrated.

### Contact Details

It is **ESSENTIAL** for safeguarding reasons and emergency purposes that we have your most up-to-date contact details, including telephone number, email address and postal address in school. Please contact school if these require updating ASAP.

## Electronic Communication

Further details will follow but it is our intention to move towards electronic communication only in the near future. This will mean that all letters and correspondence will be sent out via text or email. This will not only ensure we play our part in reducing the effect on our planet, but will also ensure that letters are not lost or misplaced on the way home. We will continue to post letters on the website as another reference point. We will shortly be contacting you for an email address if we do not already have one on our records.

## Uniform Sale

A reminder that we have a good selection of quality second hand uniform stock in school which we sell for the small price of 50p per item. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, we are unable to hold a clothing sale at this time, but if you require any items, please contact the school office to discuss your requirements and we will endeavour to help.

## Response to Covid-19

As you will be aware, over the summer the Government and Public Health England (PHE) have continued to update and amend guidance to schools and the public in relation to Covid-19. Please see below the most recent message relevant to schools. Further information can also be found on the school website Covid-19 information page <https://www.athersleysouth-primary.co.uk/covid-19.html>

### *PHE Message*

Public Health want to reassure you of the plans they have in place to keep your children safe when they return in September. All year groups will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term. We have been working hard to minimise the risks of Coronavirus (COVID-19) by making sure that we have control measures in place in line with the Government guidance. The school has undertaken a thorough risk assessment which includes:

- Maximising distancing between people in school, and reducing contacts wherever possible
- Enhanced cleaning arrangements
- Robust hand washing and respiratory hygiene measures.

**We all have a role to play** in keeping our school and community safe **Do not** send your child to school if:

- they do not feel well
- they have symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19) or have tested positive
- you, someone in your household or support bubble has symptoms or has tested positive.

You should book a free Coronavirus (COVID-19) test and self-isolate in line with the guidance below and at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus). The same guidance applies to school staff.

## Finally

Throughout these unprecedented times, your ongoing support, patience and understanding has, and continues to be, very much appreciated. While we cannot know for sure what the next few weeks and months have in store, please be assured that no matter what we will continue to do our very best for all our children and the whole Athersley South Primary community.

Please stay safe.

Kind regards

Mrs E. Sanderson