



St Barnabas C of E Primary School
Jubilee Terrace
Leeman Road
York, YO26 4YZ
Tel: 01904 555152
Email: stbarnabas@york.gov.uk

Headteacher: Miss K Boardman (BSc Hons)

"Barnabas, the Encourager"

2nd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to wish you a very happy new year. I hope that all your families are safe and well. Let's hope that we can look forward to more normal times during this year when we can see our families and friends once again.

At the current time, primary schools in York are planned to be open as usual and we are looking forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday 5th January.

Changes to beginning and end of the day

Remember that our times for the beginning and end of day have changed slightly. This is to improve the quality of learning time at the start and end of the school day.

Reception and Key Stage 1 children will start at 8:40am and finish at 2:55pm.

Key Stage 2 children will start at 8:50am and finish at 3:05pm.

Key Stage 2 siblings of younger school and playgroup children are welcome to come straight into school at 8:40am to avoid having to wait on the playground. Their day will still end at 3:05pm regardless of whether they come in a little earlier. Unfortunately we cannot keep the younger children in school until the KS2 end time but the wait for siblings shouldn't be too long once they have been collected.

Reception and KS1 children should line up as usual in their class lines. I will review this and if the line goes so far back that it prevents people from walking across the playground, I will ask the class to divide into 2 lines so that there is a safe gap at the back of the playground.

Key Stage 2 children should go straight in via their usual doors.

Given the recent, sharp rise in cases in York and the movement into Tier 3 it is important that we all take care to follow the rules to keep everyone safe,

Please ensure that you maintain social distancing on the school site, avoid gathering in groups and please wear a mask for additional protection. I will monitor the effect of the new timings carefully and if it prevents social distancing from taking place, I will make the necessary changes. I am confident though that there is plenty of space to spread out on the school site.

Please be aware that the car park gates will be partly closed / blocked by cones so that this entrance can be used by pedestrians and cyclists. Therefore please do not attempt to drive upto the school gates without prior arrangement.

Changes to Covid measures in school

The new tier has not meant any major changes to the way we operate in school but we will be taking extra care to follow all the necessary measures in order to keep everyone as safe as possible. Our school risk assessment has been updated in light of the new guidance and can be viewed below.

St Barnabas Covid Risk Assessment v 02.01.21

As the situation in York/ nationally changes over the next few weeks there may be further changes to our procedures and risk assessment. I will keep you updated.

It is vitally important that we do all we can to reduce the spread of Covid, therefore please DO NOT send your child to school if

- **they are displaying any symptoms of Covid or any other illness**
- **have been asked to isolate**
- **another member of the household is displaying Covid symptoms**

More information for parents in York can be found [here](#)

I understand that some of you may be anxious about your child returning to school. Please be assured that we are following all the safety guidance and continually keep our procedures under review.

If you have any questions about any of the above or are unsure whether to send your child to school if they are unwell, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Children's wellbeing

It may also be that your child is showing signs of anxiety about the current situation. Children can't always recognise this in themselves but it may be seen through changes in their behaviour. If think your child may be experiencing anxiety, please contact their class teacher so that we can support them in the way that is right for them.

There are various resources and activities that you may find useful to do with your child at home in the [Wellbeing Section](#) of our website

PE Days

A reminder of the PE / Outdoor days for each class is [here](#).

I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday.

Best wishes



Miss K Boardman
Headteacher