

Delaval Gardens  
Blyth  
Northumberland  
NE24 4DA



Head Teacher: Mrs D T Worrall BEd (Hons)

Telephone: **01670 353255**

Email: [admin@newdelaval.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newdelaval.northumberland.sch.uk)

Website: [www.newdelavalprimary.co.uk](http://www.newdelavalprimary.co.uk)

---

29<sup>th</sup> May 2020

### **Dear Parents/Carers**

I hope this letter finds you well and the children happy in the sunshine. These are unprecedented times and I want to thank you for your grateful comments, which are deeply appreciated by all my team. Both parents and staff have worked so hard to manage our children's learning and emotional wellbeing at this time. Thank you.

### **Potential Phased Reopening**

I wish to give you an update following my recent communication regarding the possibility of children returning to school from June 1st. The School Leadership Team and the Governors are committed to reopening and have considered very seriously and carefully how we can implement the Government advice and guidance to ensure the best possible arrangements to maximise the Health and Safety of our children, families, staff and the whole New Delaval community.

Parents may wish to consult the following document for information at GOV.UK – Opening schools and educational settings to more pupils from 1 June: guidance for parents and carers.

Our Guiding Principles are as follows:

- **Phasing the return of pupils cautiously whilst aiming to minimise the risk of infection to children, families and staff.**
- **Aiming to assure the New Delaval community that stringent social distancing rules are in place to protect all individuals.**
- **Endeavouring to put in place all appropriate and proportionate Health and Safety measures.**
- **Prioritising safety, welfare and wellbeing in a calm, flexible manner.**
- **Ensuring all of the above result in a confident and happy community.**

Thank you to those parents who responded to the survey requesting places in the key year groups.

This is a difficult decision for parents. It is still at your discretion if you choose to take up a place in school at this time, we appreciate that individual, and family

circumstances will inform your decision-making. **Pupils not returning to school and those not in eligible cohorts will continue to be set home learning.**

We are at present organising bubbles, classrooms and staffing. In order to ensure a steady, safe reopening ensuring each group can understand and practise the new procedures before we bring in the next one our phased reopening will be as follows:

- **From Monday June 1<sup>st</sup>** – continued provision for children of Key Workers and Vulnerable groups only.
- **From Monday June 8<sup>th</sup>** – Year 6 children who requested a place will begin attending joining the Key Worker/ Vulnerable groups. – **\*please see note below**
- **Fridays** – **\*\*please see note in cleaning below**
- **From Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 1 pupils who requested a place to begin attending.
- **From Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June** – Reception pupils who requested a place to begin attending.

**\*New requests will be risk assessed at the end of each week based on numbers, staffing and space. You should not just turn up to school without first having a start time and date issued. This will ensure that classes are set up and staffed to accept children back to school in a safe and calm manner.**

Governors, the leadership team and I are working to ensure all social distance guidelines are considered including:

- Minimising group sizes to meet social distancing recommendations based on classroom size.
- Arrangements to ensure the children remain with their teaching adult (this person may not be their usual teacher/classroom ) and peers all day in one room.
- Staggered entry and collection times at the school gates, 2 m spacing to manage social distancing of children and adults.
- Children will be collected from parents at the school gates.
- There will be no entry into the school office. I would kindly ask that parents either call or email with any queries as you unfortunately will not be able to just drop by at this time.
- Safe arrangements for staggered breaks and lunches.
- Increasing outdoor time (field/ playground to be accessible and zoned for different year groups).
- Cleaning and sanitising of surfaces during the day.
- Increased handwashing before and after activities.
- Careful management of toilet access.
- Arrangements for the movement of groups around school
- Thorough daily cleaning of each room and deep cleaning each week.
- **\*\* to enable a regular deeper clean of our school we will close to ALL pupils from 1pm each Friday beginning June 12<sup>th</sup> to enable this important task to be done.**

The return to school will look different in respect of the teaching environment, teacher allocation and groups. We will need parent support in explaining this to our children.

The Government will review the scientific evidence, the Sage reports and their 5 point key health measures on May 28<sup>th</sup> before confirming that schools will reopen. For this reason the whole plan may move forward should additional planning be needed to accommodate any changes. You will be notified if this is the case. The Health and Safety of our children, families and staff is paramount. We are endeavouring to tread cautiously bringing in an increasing number of pupils in a phased manner. We need to prioritise safety, welfare and wellbeing in a calm and organised way to ensure our children, parents and staff are confident and happy.

We understand fully that this is an anxious time for everyone and that adults are still required to work at home if possible which is challenging when you are home schooling children in year groups who are ineligible for return but we are doing all we can to address your concerns.

Thank you for your understanding and support in these challenging times. We will maintain our communications with further planning details in the coming days giving further details of staggered start and finish times, entry points, classrooms, social distancing and the structure of the day.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Yours sincerely



Mrs D T Worrall  
Head Teacher

