

**Consett Junior School
FAQs for March 2021**

Will you run the breakfast club, if so, how will it work?

Breakfast club will run from Thursday 8th March, 7.45am start. Children will enter through the main reception and sit in their year group bubbles. It will be slightly more formal than in previous years, children will not be able to move around freely. Once the children are in and seated, the staff will bring their breakfast to them. **Children must not be on site before 7.45am.**

Will you run after school clubs?

Sadly, at present we will not be running after school clubs, the need to have the school fully cleaned after school is the current priority.

What if I have a child in several bubbles which means they start and finish at different times of the day?

If you have a child in both the 8.45am bubbles and 9.00am bubbles – the child in the later year bubble can enter the school via reception and sit with their appropriate year group in the breakfast club bubble.

At the end of the day, we will hold younger siblings in school, from the 3.05pm group, to wait for the older group to leave at 3.20pm. **Parents will need to let us know at the start of the term so that we can ensure we have appropriate list.**

Can parents/carers come onto the yard?

Year 3 & 4 parents can come onto the yard at the end of the school day, 3.05pm, to collect their child – if parents can continue to follow the one way system around the school as was the case before Christmas.

Can we come into school or is this still appointment only?

At present we cannot welcome visitors into school unless it is by appointment only; this includes parents/carers.

Can my younger child access your toilets if we are waiting outside?

Sadly no, where I appreciate that in the past we have allowed this – the adults toilets in school are now for designated adults and can not be used by the public.

What if there is an outbreak or a suspected outbreak of COVID in school?

If anyone in school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell, they will be sent home. They must arrange to have a test. Their household should self-isolate for 14 days.

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We are expected to take swift action and will therefore contact our local health protection team – following a rapid risk assessment we will follow their guidance and share this with parents of the children in the designated bubble.

What if I choose not to send my child to school due to concerns over Covid?

The government has issued very clear guidance to schools and parents over this concern. They have informed us that all children should return when requested by the school, attendance returns to being compulsory. The normal procedures for monitoring attendance will be implemented. We as a school are expected to follow these rules.

What if my child or a member of my household has symptoms of Covid?

If you or a member of your household has COVID symptoms you are expected to self-isolate for 10 days. You should inform the school immediately – if tested please can you inform the school of results, where tested positive or negative.

Can my child bring in a packed lunch and water bottle?

From March we will return to our normal school dinner protocols; so yes, packed lunches are allowed, as are water bottles.

What if I know children are not following guidance when not in school?

The school will remind parents of their responsibilities, although we have no enforcement powers outside of school.

Does my child need to bring hand gel?

We have purchased enough hand gel and cleaning equipment to allow us to function for the year ahead – children do not need to bring their own into school.

What items should my child bring into school each day?

Children will need only the bare minimum; we will provide all the necessary items, pens, pencils etc. for everyday school life. **Children should not bring any pencil cases etc into school.** They will usually need a coat, water bottle and PE kit; for the foreseeable future for the days children are doing PE, they can wear their PE Kit to school (This should wear their school PE kit – it must be school PE kit.)

Do children need to wear uniform?

There is an expectation that children wear school uniform on the days when they do not have PE; although we are aware that some items of new uniform, such as shoes, may be difficult to purchase.

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Do I need to wash my child's clothes every day?

The guidance has now change, clothes do not need washed every day.

What if my child needs medication and I need to complete a form?

The forms will be available online, although this can be completed in school, after having booked an appointment via the school office.

Will my child still do PE?

PE will still take place, we will inform you of when PE lessons are, so that your child can come to school appropriately dressed.

How will social distancing between other bubbles work?

We have put in place a staggered start and end of the day. Alongside this, we will use different entrances to the school. Year groups will have different break and lunchtimes. We will stringently follow these procedures.

We will have no mixed age assemblies, children will be taught and reminded about social distancing. The children are excellent at following the rules.

Where will my child go to enter school?

Year 3 children will be expected to come into school via the pedestrian gate, then when they reach the parent shelter, turn toward the main reception and enter via the rear gate.

Year 4 children will enter via the normal pupil gate.

Year 5 children will enter, like Year 3 via the rear gate.

Year 6 children will enter via the normal pupil gate.

Mrs McMahon, Miss White, Mr Meadow, Miss Waters, Miss McNeill and Miss Breheny's class will all enter their classrooms via the fire doors that access the school yard.

Mr Moore and Mrs Taylor/Miss Thompson's class will enter the school via the school yard door (playground).

Miss Lynch will be at the main pedestrian gate on a morning.

Where will my child be collected/or leave from school?

Year 3 and 4 children will be taken onto the school yard and collected from there, parents then can follow the one-way system around the school site.

Year 5 children will be walked to the main pedestrian entrance at the end of the school day.

Year 6 children will be dismissed from their classrooms.

What if we are running late and miss our entry slot?

If you are late, please ring and let us know and we will let you know of the procedures to follow.

My child has SEN, how will they be supported?

We will be continuing to support our SEND children and families as normal when they return, although we may have to make a small adjustment to how we sit our children and staff – support will continue as normal.

I need to speak to the class teacher/other member, how do I go about this?

This is best done via email, although if parents need to speak with staff, we can arrange for a member of staff to ring you back. We will not be admitting parents or other adults who have not phoned ahead to make an appointment.

Will there be 'catch up' sessions or support for the time missed in school?

We will be focussing on three main areas when the children return to school on the 8th March.

- 1) Well-being: Through feedback from parents and discussions with children we are very aware that some children have struggled through this recent lockdown. One of our main areas of focus will be to support the children through re-building relationships with friends and teachers, putting in place routines, supporting children with concerns and worries.

We will deliver this support through our PHSE programme and by adding an additional well-being lesson into the school timetable.

- 2) A broad curriculum: Children will receive a varied curriculum, covering all subjects. Through the use of quizzes and assessment we will quickly build a picture of where gaps are in the children's learning and through Quality First Teaching look to build up knowledge in these areas.
- 3) Intervention and Catch Up: Each class in the school has access to support, the staff have already planned interventions and catch-up sessions for the returning children. These will be aimed at a range of children and be specific to needs and gaps in learning.

In addition to these 3 areas – we are very aware of the importance of supporting the transition to secondary school for our year 6 children. We have already contacted the secondary schools where our children are moving to and further information should be coming in the next few weeks.

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Much has been written in the media and spoken by government about catch up – although nothing concrete has been passed down to schools. Talk of summer schools and extended school days have been muted, the information that we have received is that funding may be directed towards secondary schools. We will of course keep you up to date regarding this information.

I am running late to collect my child, what should I do?

As mentioned earlier, please ring ahead, let us know and we will help manage the situation.

I need to collect my child for a medical appointment?

As in normal times, please ring ahead and let us know, we will have your child ready for collection.

If and when swimming restarts, how will this work, can parents watch?

At present we have received no change in the guidance and sadly we do not envisage swimming to return to the curriculum for this academic year.