

Midsomer Norton Primary School

'Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership'

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Tuesday 31st August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope our families have enjoyed the summer. We are looking forward to welcoming all of our children back to school on Monday 6th September. We are also very pleased that, in many respects, school will be 'back to normal'. Please see the accompanying letter from Alun Williams, CEO of our academy trust, for information about how schools are to operate from this term. Below is additional information specific to Midsomer Norton Primary School. As children, families and staff may be out of practice after 18 months of disruption, please read through carefully to remind you and your child(ren) of school routines and expectations.

Safety

In addition to ensuring good ventilation, we will continue to promote regular hand washing. We will also continue to have increased cleaning of 'high touch' areas during the day. You can find full details of our COVID measures in our risk assessment published on our school website.

We are no longer asking adults to wear masks when on the school site.

Visitors/Events

Unless official guidance changes, schools are able to invite parents and other visitors into school. This means we are hoping to be able to return to whole school events such as Harvest, Drop Off and Read etc.

Meet the Teacher

We will hold our Meet The Teacher event online this year as the online format worked well last year and enabled more parents and carers to join the event. Details of the event will be emailed to families on Thursday 1st September.

Timings

Now that we no longer need to maintain 'bubbles' we will revert to our normal timings.

For Reception to Year 6, doors will open for children to enter school at **8:35am**. Children can enter school from the top or bottom playgrounds. Staff on the door will call for children with siblings to enter first to help reduce congestion as children come in.

Lessons begin at **8:45 am**. The register is taken at 8:45am in Key Stage 2 and at 8:50am in Reception and Key Stage 1 as younger children may need a few more minutes to put their things away. **Please** arrive in time to ensure your child is ready to learn by 8:45am.

The school day finishes at *3:15pm*. Older children will be dismissed with their younger siblings. However, please note that initially children in Year 1 with siblings in Reception will be dismissed from the Year 1 classes until they get used to routines and the Key Stage 1 environment. If you have children in both year groups please collect from Reception first before collecting your child from Year 1.

Sunbeams Nursery and Sun Pre-School will continue to begin at 8:30am and finish at 3:30pm.







Uniform

Children should wear full school uniform including appropriate footwear. This does not include boots.

On PE days, <u>children may continue to come to school in PE kit</u>; however, they should wear a school jumper or one of our lovely new hoodies. In cold weather, leggings or (preferably unbranded) tracksuit bottoms are acceptable.

Hair/Jewellery

Please remember your child should not wear jewellery in school. Ear studs are allowed but must be removed or taped over for PE.

Hairstyles should be suitable for school. Long hair must be tied back. Please do not allow your child to have an 'extreme' haircut or to have their hair coloured.

Equipment

Children may bring a <u>small</u> pencil case to school. Children are allowed to bring playground equipment such as footballs or skipping ropes to school. Other than this, children should not bring toys to school to avoid them being lost or broken and leading to upset. However, children are allowed to bring a (non electronic) toy to school on Fridays for Greenie Time in the afternoon.

Please, please make sure that every item of clothing belonging to your child is named! Every term we have to dispose of a small mountain of unclaimed, unnamed lost property.

Snacks/ Packed lunches

It can be a long school day. Children may bring a healthy snack to school for the morning. Please make sure that your child's packed lunch box is named. We strongly recommend our school dinners as <u>research</u> shows that only 2% of school packed lunches meet the nutritional standards school meals must reach. Please contact our school office to find out how to order school dinners.

Attendance

Attendance at school IS compulsory and, after such a disrupted 18 months, it is vital that we do our best to ensure attendance for all pupils is excellent. Term time holidays can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Clubs

We will be sending out our list of clubs for the term and an online sign up form next week. On Thursday 9th September, we have a 'Clubs Taster Day' when sports coaches from PH Sports will provide a taste to our children of what they can expect from the clubs on offer. We strongly encourage our children to sign up for at least one club.

Wrap around Care

We offer Breakfast Club and After School Care from 7:00am – 6:00pm. Please contact the school office for more information on how to book a place in Breakfast Club or After School Care.

We hope our children and families enjoy the last few days of the summer!

Best wishes

Alun Randell Head Teacher