



The Spire Federation - Re-opening Information

COVID -19 School Reopening Information

As school begins a phased reopening we understand that this naturally creates anxieties. This leaflet will hopefully provide some clarity and reassurances around the preparation and actions we are taking as a school. We are committed to keeping our school community safe and happy. Our new operations are following government guidance whilst reflecting the unique nature of our schools.

We ask that during this time you:

- Keep your child at home if they show any symptoms of COVID -19 (temperature about 37.5 / new, continuous cough / loss or change to sense of smell or taste) for 7 days
- Keep your child at home if anyone else in your household has symptoms for 14 days
- Continue to maintain contact with us and inform us of any changes

How things will operate:

Class Group Organisation:

Pupils will be in self-contained groups/'bubbles'. Numbers of pupils in each group will depend on the size of the room and the needs of the pupils, alongside social distancing rules. Staff will remain with a group as far as possible to avoid unnecessary contact with others. This will mean that many pupils will not get their usual class teacher. The class teacher will, however, undertake the planning for the children where their full year group is back in school. Pupils will stay in these groups throughout the day. This will limit any unnecessary contact with additional adults or peers. The maximum group size will be 14 at East Wold and 10 at North Cockerington, most groups/ bubbles will have 8 or less pupils in them.

School Environment and Social Distancing:

There will be visual reminders around the site to show the recommended distance of two metres. Pupils will learn 'we are keeping 2m apart to keep ourselves and others safe' and 'we are washing our hands to keep ourselves and others safe'. This will include posters and tape reminders in corridors and on the floors, both inside and outside of the building. In addition, timetabling and staggered playtime and lunchtimes will help limit the risk of pupils having to pass one another in corridors. Corridors may have a one-way system with increased floor markings to support pupils and staff in the building. Staff will be vigilant but also take into account the needs of the pupils and their individual levels of understanding in supporting this. Physical contact will not be encouraged and if there are medical needs/personal care, then staff will wear PPE.



Class Environments and Resources:

All learning spaces will be adjusted to increase space and remove any items that may cause cross contamination, such as soft furnishings and open access to resources. Pupils will only use existing books for English, Maths and Topic. Each pupil, including reception pupils, will have their own desk and will be issued with a pencil case of stationery/resources. Pupils belongings will be stored in a box under their desk. Pupils will not be allowed to bring toys/pencil cases, book bags etc into school. Pupils will not be able to share equipment. Some examples of 'socially distanced' classrooms can be found on social media and you may find these helpful to envisage what a classroom might look like. We will endeavour to maintain social distancing but the government have admitted that this will not be possible at all times with younger pupils.

Arrival and Departure:

As students arrive at school there will be markings to ensure social distancing during drop off. The playground gates are locked and staggered start / end times will be in place. You will receive a letter with details of your start /end times and the entrance to be used. Only one family member can bring/collect children and social distance markings should be observed. Parents are asked to arrive at school for the correct time and adhere to the social distancing signs. Parents are asked not to gather at the school gates.

School Uniform:

To support any cross contamination, we ask that a full set of clean clothes be worn each day. Therefore, school uniform is optional but clothes must be suitable for school and outdoor learning.

Lunch Arrangements:

Lunchtimes will be staggered to ensure we are supporting social distancing outside. Lunches will be eaten in your child's designated learning area. From 15th June, we are aiming to provide packed lunches to all pupils attending school in Reception and KS1 and those in school that are entitled to free school meals. If you wish your child to receive a packed lunch, please email enquiries@north-cockerington.lincs.sch.uk for more information. We ask that all pupils in Reception and KS1 take up their free school meal offer so that extra baggage does not come in from home. Children entitled to Free School Meals who are at home will still receive food vouchers.

Break times and Outside activities:

We are lucky that we have considerable space outside and will continue to use as many opportunities as we can to be outside. Any activities outside will be staggered/zoned to support social distancing. Each bubble will have a set of playtime equipment which will be cleaned after each use. Pupils must wear clothes that are suitable for outside learning in all weathers – coat, jumper and sunhat. Pupils will be shown games that they can play safely whilst observing social distancing rules. Again, the government has said that social distancing will be difficult for younger pupils in school.

Key Worker Children:

From 1st June Key Worker children will attend their usual school. Key Worker groups will continue to operate along a similar line to the last few weeks, and family members will be in the same group. Key Worker bubbles will not mix with other bubbles. However, Key Worker children will move to their year group bubble if their year group is in school i.e. a Key Worker's child in Reception will be with the reception bubble.



Hygiene:

All pupils will be supported to wash their hands throughout the day. This will be part of the routine of the day. Hand sanitisers are available, however, hand washing is preferred. Our staff have provision to wipe down and clean surfaces / handles etc. throughout the day. The site teams will maintain the high levels of enhanced cleaning that are already in place. This will also remain under review.

Toilets:

Pupils will be shown how to manage social distancing during toilet breaks. Bubbles will have allocated toilets. No one will be restricted from going to the toilet and pupils will be constantly reminded about the importance of hand washing.

Suspected COVID19 case in school

In the event of a person in school displaying symptoms of the virus, their first duty is to tell someone. We will remove the person, adult or child, from the group as soon as is possible and take them to a designated space away from everyone else. A separate toilet has been allocated for use if needed. Parents will be informed and the child (and any sibling on site) will be sent home as soon as possible. Pupils are eligible for tests. If the test is positive, every person in that bubble from school will need to self-isolate at home with the rest of their household and will not be able to return to school until the quarantine period is over. If the test is negative, the child may return to school.

Use of PPE:

Wearing a face covering or facemask in schools is not recommended. It will be necessary for some staff to wear PPE on occasion if: they are administering intimate care or if they are dealing with a medical issue and are unable to maintain a distance of 2 metres.

Learning and Curriculum:

The home learning provision that has developed over recent weeks has been carefully planned to maintain key learning for all students and continues to be developed. We will continue to encourage pupils learning at home to continue with the online lessons available nationally as well as other resources available on our web-site. In school, we will prioritise the identification of each pupil's gaps in knowledge and tailor provision to help close those gaps over the next few weeks.

PE - Outside exercise will take place. Guidelines say team games or activities that don't adhere to social distancing cannot take place. Pupils will be outside exercising but not having the usual PE lessons. Children will need to be wearing clothes that are suitable for exercise to take place daily. Therefore, trainers or similar are more appropriate than school shoes at this time and PE kits are not needed.

Behaviour Policy:

We have added an annex to our Behaviour Policy which highlights the additional rules and procedures.

Wraparound Care:

With regret, at this time, we are not able to offer breakfast or after school club provision at East Wold.



Mental Health and Wellbeing:

As a federation, wellbeing continues to be a priority. Staff are developing a recovery curriculum which focuses mental health and well-being along with core skills. Resources will also continue to be available through the website. We have ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistants) and Healthy Minds trained staff in school and staff training is taking place to support pupil well-being. We will tailor any group work to address any anxieties that our pupils may have developed.

Useful Mental Well-being links:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/what-to-do-if-your-child-is-anxious-about-going-back-to-school/>

<https://rockitmama.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/How-to-Foster-Your-Childs-1-1-683x1024.png>

We will also aim to produce a video of the school so that pupils can see the changes before starting back to help with transition.

Staffing and Online Learning

All staff who are able to come into school will be expected to do so from 1st June 2020. This means that teachers will not have time to also provide online lessons. Some staff are not able to come into school during this pandemic and so they will provide guidance on home learning for the pupils who are not in school at this time. We will continue to use the online learning platforms that we have been doing already and we will adjust work expectations accordingly. Your child's class teacher may not be providing this direction but another teacher will. Home learning contact will be undertaken by a staff member as opposed to your class teacher and it will take longer to receive a response from us regarding home learning.

The School Office & Visitors

The school office will be functioning differently and we strongly advise that no one comes to the school office. If you need to contact us, then please do so by email or telephone even if this is regarding a message that you would normally drop off at the office. Meetings on site will be avoided and only permitted in exceptional circumstances/under strict guidance. Assemblies will continue online and will be shared in school within each bubble.

Transfer of items from school to home

We ask that children only bring in their water bottle, lunch (if not provided), sunhat and coat in to school. We will be limiting items entering the site from outside to avoid the potential spread of the virus. Reading books/home learning sheets will not be issued. Sun cream should be applied before school and not brought into school.

We realise things will be different but we want to assure you we are doing everything we can to have a safe and happy school. If you have any questions, please email enquiries@north-cockerington.lincs.sch.uk

