



Newsletter

14th January 2021

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to another very different spring term! It is not the start to the new year that we would have hoped for but the important thing now is that we all work together to keep our family, friends and community safe and well.

COVID Update [Article 19 - Children have the right to be safe](#)

As you know we all need to work together to stop the spread of COVID-19, particularly given the new variant we hear so much about. At all times we need to be careful; we need to frequently wash our hands, especially if we leave/arrive home from the supermarket, shop, school, garage etc, we need to wear a face covering if we can't maintain a distance of 2m from other adults and we need to distance ourselves from others, giving others space. In school, with the children who are accessing face to face learning, we are continuing with regular hand washing and the children play and eat in their 'bubbles'. Thank you for your on-going support through this very difficult time.

Timings of the Day [Article 28 - every child has the right to an education](#)

Whilst we have smaller numbers of children in school, we can quicken up the start of school and collection times at the beginning and end of the day. From Monday 18th January the new timings are:

Nursery am	8:45am - 11:45am	Nursery Gate
Maple Class	8:45am - 3:15pm	MUGA Gate
Blossom Class	8:50am - 3:05pm	Nursery Gate
Pine Class	8:50am - 3:05pm	Main Gate
Willow Class	8:55am - 3:10pm	MUGA Gate
Sycamore Class	8:55am - 3:10pm	Main Gate
Nursery pm	12:30pm - 3:30pm	Nursery Gate

Learning at home [Article 28 - every child has the right to an education](#)

As we are now in another 'National Lockdown' situation, we have many children accessing home learning. Our team is working so hard to make sure we provide high quality daily learning tasks for our children at home as well as those children currently accessing face to face learning. We don't want any child to miss out or fall behind. It is really important that your child accesses the daily activities set by his/her teacher. If you have any concerns regarding the learning set, any difficulties in accessing remote learning via Seesaw or you are struggling to engage your child, please contact school and we will do our best to support you through this difficult time. We are currently working behind the scenes to develop a way of children having regular contact with their teacher via 'Microsoft Teams'. Please bear with us whilst we get this up and running and we will let you know how and when this can be accessed in due course.

Uniform [Article 15 - every child has the right to join groups](#)

During times of poor weather, it is appropriate for the children to wear wellies to keep their feet dry, but, could you please send along a pair of indoor shoes? It is not healthy to sit in wellies all day. The children will also need a warm/waterproof coat in school and a hat and gloves.

Free School Meal Food Hampers [Article 24 - Children have the right to nutritious food](#)

We are currently able to provide a weekly food box to all children who are eligible to receive free school meals. The box contains some store cupboard staples and fresh ingredients. We have put together a suggested menu plan which will provide one child with breakfast, lunch and a snack for 5 days using the contents of the box. If

you have not currently requested your box and you would like one, please let us know. Boxes are ordered weekly and will be available to collect once each week from school. If you have problems collecting your box, please let us know. Thank you.

Attendance *Article 28 - every child has the right to an education*

Please inform us as soon as possible if your child is not going to be at school; it is important that we enter the correct reason on our school register. It is particularly important at this time that we are made aware of any Coronavirus symptoms our children or family members may have.

COVID Symptoms *Article 24 - children have the right to the best possible health care*

Please remember to look out for the following symptoms which could indicate COVID-19:

- A new continuous cough (usually a dry cough and you will be coughing much more than usual)
- A high temperature
- A loss of taste and/or smell

Should you become aware that you have symptoms or that you or a member of your household has tested positive, it is important to alert school at the earliest opportunity. Please email: oakleycross@durhamlearning.net and oakleybrannanoneil@gmail.com Thank you.

Applications for a School Place *Article 28 - every child has the right to an education*

Is your child starting school in September 2021? Please remember that all applications for a school place starting September 2021 must be completed by 15th January. Even if your child has an older sibling in school or already attends our nursery this application must be made. If you would like any help or advice with accessing the application, please contact school.

Nursery Places *Article 28 - every child has the right to an education*

Our nursery is proving to be very popular this year. We currently provide places for children who are 2 years old and eligible for play and learn sessions and for children who are 3 years old. We also offer 30 hours provision for eligible children. If you are interested in a place, or would like more information, please contact school and we will be happy to have a chat and provide you with an application form. We have a number of children due to start nursery with us this month but because of the National Lockdown, this start has been delayed. We will admit all new starters as soon as it is safe to do so. If you are considering us for your child's nursery provision we can add you to our waiting list.

Safeguarding - Are your contact details up to date? *Article 8 - children have the right to a family*

It is important that we have up to date contact details for all children here on file at school. **We must be able to contact you in an emergency.** Please drop us a note if you think we may not have your current contact number: home, work or mobile. For safeguarding purposes, we must also be informed of any changes to your child's home address/living arrangements as soon as possible.

Governor Vacancies *Article 28 - every child has the right to an education*

We currently have one vacancy for a parent governor on our school governing body. If you are interested in this role or would like more information, please contact school.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with school if you want to put forward a suggestion or discuss anything.

Thank you.

R Brannan