



# DELVES LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Delves Lane, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 7ES

Head Teacher: Mrs R A Woods

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## LEARN, ACHIEVE, INSPIRE

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

We would like to welcome everybody back to school and hope you all enjoyed the break. Following the government's announcement, we must now follow new national restrictions. We understand how difficult these restrictions will be for some of our families,

### New National Restrictions from 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

The government has advised that COVID-19 case numbers are rising rapidly across the whole of the UK and in other countries. The single most important action we can all take to fight coronavirus is to stay at home, to protect the NHS and save lives.

When we reduce our day-to-day contact with other people, we reduce the spread of the infection. That is why, from Thursday 5 November until Wednesday 2 December, you must:

- Stay at home, except for specific purposes.
- Avoid meeting people you do not live with, except for specific purposes.
- Close certain businesses and venues.

These new measures will reduce the growth rate of the virus, which will:

- prevent the NHS from being overwhelmed
- ensure schools, colleges and universities can stay open
- ensure that as many people as possible can continue to work

We would advise that all adults wear a mask when they drop off and collect children from school, but we cannot enforce this, thank you.

### COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

If your child develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus (COVID-19), they should STAY AT HOME. Please contact school by telephone or email at [delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net)

Anyone with symptoms should stay at home for at least 10 days and book a test. This can be done by calling 119 or online through the NHS website: [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus). The rest of the household needs to stay at home for 14 days to self-isolate. All children attending school will have access to a test if they display symptoms of COVID-19 and are encouraged to get tested.

The symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell

Any pupil who develops any of the above symptoms should be tested. There is no need for their households to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic.

Children may feel unwell with a common cold, sore throat, headache or upset stomach. These are not symptoms and therefore a test is not required and self-isolation is not required.

Once a test has been taken, if the test is negative, all isolation can end. Please inform us via email [delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net) and send confirmation of the negative test.

If the test is positive, the child must remain in isolation alongside their family and the latest government guidance will need to be followed.



**You need to make sure your child attends school regularly and on time. You will be breaking the law if you do not do this and there are no good reasons for your child missing school.**

**If Your Child Is Absent You Must:**

- Contact the school office on the first morning of each day of absence and provide reasons for the absence.
- Keep school informed on a regular basis if your child is absent for a long period.
- Follow Coronavirus procedures – to ensure students, staff and our school community can stay safe.

Failure to do these things may result in your child's absences being unauthorised. Unauthorised absences can be recorded on the register when there is no valid reason given for absences, for example, a holiday not approved by the school, lateness after the register closes or illness without medical evidence. Thank you for your support with this matter.

**Sickness & Diarrhoea**

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school for **2 days** after their symptoms have gone. Please click on this link for further advice: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

**Relationships, Sex and Education Policy**

From September 2020, the teaching of Relationships, Sex and Health Education will become compulsory in all primary schools in England. For primary aged children this includes curriculum content under two main headings: Relationships and Health (including the changing adolescent body).

We hope you will be in agreement with us that this work is vitally important for children; that it needs to be done age-appropriately and sensitively. Here is a link to our new policy so you are clear about the curriculum we intend to teach and why we feel this is important

<http://www.delveslanepriamary.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2020/11/DLPS-RSHE-policy-2020.pdf>

As always, we want to work in partnership with parents and carers and would welcome your feedback or any questions which may arise. Please email these directly at [delveslanepriamary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:delveslanepriamary@durhamlearning.net)

**Google Classroom**

For technical support, parents can contact the school by e-mail: [googlesupport@delveslane.school](mailto:googlesupport@delveslane.school)

This email will be checked regularly and actioned upon on a weekly basis by Mr Jones. Some teacher specific issues such as password resets will be forwarded to the relevant class teachers.

Thank you.

**Non-Uniform Day**

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, we had a non-uniform day and raised **£155.50**. We would like to thank all our parents and carers for their kind donations which will help support school funds. A percentage of this will be donated to NHS Charities together. Thank you.

**Reading Books - Reminder**

A child's reading skills are important to their success in school as they will allow them to access the breadth of the curriculum and improve their **communication** and language skills. In addition, reading can be a fun and imaginative time for children, which opens doors to all kinds of new worlds for them.

**Can we remind parents and carers that reading books must be returned to school every Friday so that they can be quarantined. A replacement reading book will be given out every Monday.**

Thank you for your support.

**Breakfast and After School Childcare**

We have places available in our Breakfast and After School Childcare Clubs. If you would like more information about this provision please contact the school office. To book a place in either club you can send us an email [delveslanepriamary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:delveslanepriamary@durhamlearning.net) or give us a call on 01207 503984. Breakfast Club is available every day and drop off times are between **7.50 and 8.00am only**.

After School Childcare is available **Monday to Thursday** every week from the end of the school day until 5.30pm.

### **Individual Pupil Photographs – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November**

Phototronics will be coming to school on Wednesday 25th November to take the children's annual individual photographs. As you can imagine, things will have to be very different this year due to the restrictions around COVID19. Therefore, we are sorry to say we will be unable to have sibling group photographs this year; we will not be able to welcome younger siblings into school for photos and we will not be able to have photos together of siblings who are in school. Whilst I understand this is disappointing for many parents, we cannot risk mixing bubbles through the school and although some siblings are in the same year group it would be unfair for them to be able to have photos taken together when other children cannot.

Obviously, we realise that some of you will be disappointed about this but we must to the best of our ability, keep everyone safe in these strange times!

Take care and stay safe,

*R Woods*

Mrs R Woods  
**Head Teacher**