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Dear children,

It has been a long time since we have seen many of your smiling faces; all of the staff have missed you greatly.

We have now been told by the Government that we can start welcoming some children back to school. This isn't everyone yet, but we hope to see you all soon.

We need to make sure that everyone is kept safe, especially from the Coronavirus, when you are at school so we have had to make some changes to the way school runs and how the classrooms look.

Getting ready for school

You don't have to wear school uniform but you should wear 'uniform style' clothes

Sensible shoes or trainers

Trousers, shorts, a skirt or summer dress (which covers the shoulders)

A shirt, polo or t-shirt

A jumper or cardigan

Shoulders should be covered and shorts or skirts should come approximately to the knee

Clothes should be easy to clean so sequined or sparkly tops/dresses are not allowed

Our normal expectations of jewellery, make-up and hair apply

You should bring your PE kit or even better, wear clothes you can do PE in

You must bring a packed lunch in a sealed container, as the school kitchen isn't opening yet

You must bring a drinks bottle

Make sure you have a coat, sun hat and sun cream applied as required

Seeing your friends

We know it is going to be really exciting to see your friends again. However, we must keep everyone safe so please don't get too close, even to your brother or sister – keep a safe distance apart and use your words to show how happy you are to see them.

Arriving at school

- When you get to school you need to say goodbye to your adults at the front of the school.
- When asked to do so, go straight into your classroom where your teacher will have set up a morning activity

Your classroom

Your classroom looks very different to how you remember. We have had to take some things out to make sure we can clean the rooms and resources easily. You will be given a work station which has tape marking out a line on the floor around it. This is your space and no one else should come into it. You shouldn't go into anyone else's. You will have a special pack of equipment which is just for you to use. The staff room and offices have also been cleared.

Each group has a colour, Blue or Pink. You should only go in your classroom and toilets for your group. Don't go in any other parts of the school, so we can all keep safe. Your parents have been sent maps of the school, if you want to see how the rooms will be laid out.

School staff

The adult who is teaching your group might not be your normal class teacher. Don't worry though, all the teachers have spoken about what needs to be taught and how you like to learn.

Breaktime and lunchtime

Breaktime will be with children in your group; none of the other groups will be out. You will be shown where you can play and what equipment you can use. We can't use the climbing frame at the moment because we can't easily clean it.

You will be allowed to play with the other children in your group as long as you stay at least 2m away from each other, so don't play catching games or games that involve contact.

You will eat your lunch in your classroom, at your work station. Lunch time play will be the same as morning break with just your group out.

Washing hands, hygiene and first aid

You will be asked to wash your hands regularly when at school and to be really hygienic.

Make sure you cough or sneeze into a tissue and put it in the bin immediately.

If you have sensitive skin, you might want to bring in some of your own soap so your hands don't get sore.

Adults in the school will not normally wear face masks, but they might have to if they need to do first aid or help you if you are very upset.

At the end of the day

At the end of the day, your class teacher will hand you over to your parents at the front of the school. Your parents can't come into the school. There will not be any afterschool clubs at the moment.

We know that it is strange to have all these changes to the school, but they are designed to keep everyone safe and we hope we won't have to do them for long. All of the staff are working hard to make sure school is fun and enjoyable for you when you return.

If you have any questions you can ask them through Class Dojo or ask your parents to send us an email.

See you soon

Mrs Cook and all the staff of Northlew