

Shotley Bridge Primary School

Benfieldside Road, Shotley Bridge, County Durham. DH8 0SQ (YR to Y2)

Snows Green Road, Shotley Bridge, County Durham. DH8 0ES (Y3 to Y6)

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Headteacher: Mr M. C. Bell



Monday 2nd November 2020

Dear parents/carers

As we begin our second half-term please can I once again thank you all for your efforts so far in keeping everyone safe. It is my sincerest hope that we remain open during the national lockdown as I believe the correct place for our children is in school.

To ensure everyone stays as safe as possible here are some reminders and some updates to how we can all minimize risk.

- Do keep your children at home if they or someone in your household has any symptoms. Stay home until test results are negative or until self-isolation periods are complete. This has not happened in other UK schools. In other schools, children have been sent to school with symptoms or when household members have symptoms and infections have spread to the school community.
- Do socially-distance from other adults and socially-distance your children from children outside of your household at drop-off and pick-up times. At KS2 pick-up times, the social-distancing between adults has definitely reduced since September. Please go back to the good habits shown in September.
- Do socially-distance after leaving the school sites. The number of families gathering to chat after school has definitely increased since September. The number of families choosing to go to the playpark on Snows Green Road has definitely increased since September. Please only go if you can guarantee your child/children are distancing from children outside of their households/year-groups.
- Do wear your mask at pick-up and drop-off times if you feel social-distancing is not as strict as needed or simply if you feel it will help. Our children are now very used to seeing adults in masks. My 4-year-old does not even question it.
- Do continue to communicate with your class teacher by emailing school, telephoning school, writing notes in reading diaries. A small number of parents/carers are speaking to teachers after school and not maintaining social-distance as they are doing so.
- Do continue to follow the drop-off and pick-up systems. At pick-up time, KS2 classes will line up further back on the yard to ensure a safer distance between parents/carers and classes/school staff.
- At YR/KS1, Do enter via the double gates and leave via the single gate.
- Do minimize the number of people coming on-site by having one adult picking up. Of course if adults are looking after younger siblings then they will be with you.
- Do keep younger siblings under control when picking up. Especially at Snows Green Road, we are seeing an increase in younger siblings being allowed to run unsupervised in the school grounds, in front of the building, whilst adults wait in line. This is not safe at any time and also sets a bad example of how our children should behave on-site at school.

Thank you all again.

Mr Bell