



SC/PT

09 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to welcome everyone back! It has been a fantastic start to the academic year and we are all delighted to see the children again. I would like to thank you for your tremendous co-operation and support which has helped the last few days run so successfully. I would also like to welcome the many new children and their families who have recently joined the Academy.

Bubbles/Classes:

This has worked very well this week but is something new to both the children and staff. I just wanted to remind you that we have managed to organise the day to ensure that children remain within their bubble for all lessons, break and lunchtimes. Please see below for the new classes and staff for this year. I will alert you to any changes that might occur in the future:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Teachers</u>	<u>Teaching Assistants</u>
FS1	Sun	Mrs Birt	
FS2	Lynx	Miss Marrows	Miss Bailey Miss Gill
1/2	Carina	Miss Robinson Mr H Margarson	Miss Jones
3/4	Hydra	Mrs Edwards	Mrs Chatterton
5/6	Pyxis	Mrs Bull	Mrs North
RE		Mrs Cook	
Music		Mrs Heron	
PHSE		Mrs Birt	

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome teachers; Mrs Edwards who has joined our year 3 / 4 team and Mr Margarson who has joined our 1 /2 team. Also, to welcome teaching assistants; Miss Bailey, who joins our reception class and Mrs North who joins our year 5 /6 team.



Attendance:

On Friday 4 September, over 90% of our pupils attended, which was very pleasing. Can I thank you all again for your support in returning the children to the Academy, following the lengthy lockdown period.

Staggered Start and End to the Day:

Thank you for your patience and understanding with regard to timings to the start and end of the day. As you are aware we have had to make some slight amendments to the timings to prevent congestion outside the gates and for the safety and wellbeing of the parents and children. Can I please ask you to time your journey to ensure you arrive at the correct time in the morning and afternoon.

Please see below for a reminder of the new times:

<i>Year Group</i>	<i>Entrance and Exit Point</i>	<i>Arrival Time</i>	<i>Departure Time</i>
Children travelling by bus	Main gate and down side gate	8.50am	3.30pm
Early Years: Nursery & Reception - (morning only)	Carpark Gate	9.00am	12.00 pm
Early Years: Nursery & Reception (all day)	Carpark Gate	9.00am	3.15pm
Years 1 and 2	Main gate and down side gate	9.00am	3.20pm
Years 3 and 4	Main gate and down side gate	8.50am	3.25pm
Years 5 and 6	Main gate and down side gate	8.40am	3.30pm

Where you have siblings, who are attending the Academy, for example, two siblings one in Nursery and one in Year 5, they can be dropped off together at 9.00am and collected together at 3:15pm. Children will be collected at the gates by staff members.



Contacting us:

It is more challenging than normal to speak to staff members. However, it is very important that we all stay in regular communication.

Teachers and Teaching Assistants will make you aware of any issues that arise during the day. If you would like to speak to a member of staff about any matter, please either contact the main office, via telephone or send us an email via enquiries@theddlethorpeacademy.co.uk – this latter method is preferable, as we can then forward your query/request directly to the relevant member of staff.

Where you need to collect your child at a different time, for example, because they have a dentist appointment, it is vital that we know this in advance, as we would normally request. Can you please ensure that the main office is alerted, preferably using the email system. Where possible, can you please also attach a copy of the evidence. For example, this could be a scanned copy of a medical letter or a screenshot taken from your phone.

Frog:

We are trying to limit the amount of items/paper etc that travel between home and school. Therefore, we are currently looking at ways to support the children with reading and homework through Frog and other means. I will keep you updated with this.

The vast majority of the pupils will be familiar with Frog, our electronic learning environment. Staff will go through this with all the pupils, especially those new to the academy, over the next few weeks. For further details, please go to our main website and visit the 'Student Zone- Frog' tab. If you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher or Miss Marrows, who is responsible for Computing and Digital Learning in the Academy.

Lunches:

Again, can I please remind everyone that it is vital that lunches are ordered in advance for the children. This **includes** those who are entitled to a free school meal **and** those who receive a universal free meal as they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. Where a lunch has not been ordered, the catering team will not be expecting to provide a meal for that child.

If you would like any further information regarding the meals service, please use the enquiries email and we will forward these to the Aspens catering team. There is also a help guide on our website, under the main Aspens tab.

Can I also remind everyone to provide the children with a drink bottle containing water, not juice. This should be taken home each day, washed, and then returned the following day. Please could you put a label on your child's bottle to avoid bottles getting mixed up or lost.



Uniform:

Theddlethorpe Academy has a uniform policy. This includes:

- Turquoise sweatshirt / cardigan with embroidered logo, (purchased from Uniform Direct)
- White shirt or blouse
- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
- Sensible black shoes - no high heels, material/canvas shoes, in any design are not suitable.
- White or grey tights, or white or grey socks for girls
- Grey or black socks for boys
- During the warmer weather girls may wear blue checked dresses.

There is also a P.E. kit:

- Black shorts
- Sports shirt
- Rubber soled plimsolls
- Draw string P.E. bag

For outdoor P.E., children are required to bring:

- Tracksuit bottoms
- Sweatshirt
- Trainers

Hairstyles which are extreme are not permitted. For girls, a normal plain hair-slide, clip or "bobble" is acceptable, but the multitude of hair ornaments favoured by some girls is not.

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our Academy. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears (one stud per ear) and wrist watches. These items of jewellery must be removed for P.E. activities.

Free School Meals:

Over the lockdown period, a number of families applied to the local council to see if they were eligible to receive free school meals for their children, many of whom found that they were. If you think that you might be eligible, and would like any help or advice please contact us. It is a very simple process, which could provide you with free meals for your children.



Safeguarding:

If you have any questions or concerns, relating to safeguarding matters, please do not hesitate to contact:

- Mrs Cook, Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Mrs Bull, Deputy Principal and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Both can be reached via the main office on 01507 353458

Special Educational Needs:

If you have any questions or concerns, relating to special educational needs, please contact:

- Mrs Cook, Principal and SEND co-ordinator.

Early Years:

It is an exciting time for our new children in Nursery and Reception. Obviously, we have not been able to enact our normal transition procedures. If you have any questions at all about Early Years, please contact:

- Miss Marrows or Mrs Cook

Applications for Secondary Schools:

This process will start shortly for our new Year 6 pupils and their families. This week, we have received some documentation and information from the local authority. We will be contacting Year 6 families over the next week with further information.

Theddlethorpe Star:

Despite the disruption to the year, we still managed to produce our annual review magazine, which is very full, showcasing the many wonderful achievements from last year. A copy for all children was sent home with children last week.

And Finally:

It has been and continues to be such a strange time for us all. It is important that we all do whatever we can to get back to normality again for our children. The return to the Academy has been extremely positive and if we can all work together, it will be of great benefit to everyone involved. I would like to thank you again for your on-going support and please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of staff if you wish to discuss any matter.

Yours faithfully

Susan Cook
Principal

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