

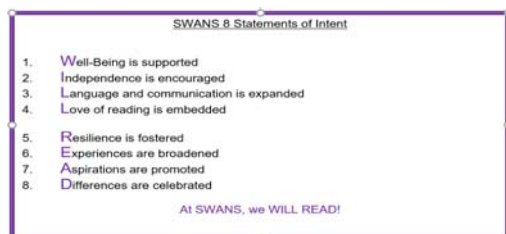


STEPHENSON WAY ACADEMY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

-Headteacher: Mrs T Page

-Stephenson Way, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 7DD

-Tel: 01325 300324 -Email: office@swans.education www.stephensonway.co.uk



Autumn 1 Newsletter (Week Ending 10.9.21)



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new academic year 2021-2022. Since returning last week, the children have made an excellent start to the new academic year, settling quickly in their new classes and working extremely hard. They have demonstrated positive attitudes and fantastic behaviour, conducting themselves superbly around school. Thanks to all parents and carers who have ensured the children are super smart in their school uniform!

Risk assessment and Covid Guidance

Thankfully, the majority of lockdown measures have now been lifted and we are excited to have a much more 'normal' routine in school. We continue to follow all government guidance and stringent risk assessments remain in place to ensure everyone's safety is a priority in school. Risk assessments are reviewed regularly and are available on our school website www.stephensonway.co.uk under 'Covid – 19 Support and Guidance'.

Some routines, such as split breaks and lunchtimes have continued, as there were huge benefits to the children which we want to keep.

In the event of any COVID -19 changes locally or nationally, our COVID -19 Outbreak Management Plan will be adhered to and you will be informed.

We continue to ask that any contact with school is made via telephone where possible. Please also make sure that where possible, only 1 person drops off / collects children from school to ease any congestion on the premises at busy times.

Online Safety

Over the summer holiday, many children may have spent a lot more time than perhaps they normally would online. Please look at the NSPCC website for further information on how to keep your children safe online

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

There are also lots of useful links on our new school website www.stephensonway.co.uk under our Safeguarding section.

Uniform

If you need new uniform this can be ordered directly from www.elizabethsewbrodery.co.uk.

We do have some PE T shirts available to buy from the school office at £3 each

After School Clubs

We are delighted to offer a wide range of after school clubs this year. Demand for clubs is very high and to ensure fairness, we operate a 'draw' system, (rather than 'first come, first served'). If your child did not get a place, they will be placed on the reserve list in case anyone drops out or, for the next time the club runs, to have first refusal. Please see our clubs timetable on the school website www.stephensonway.co.uk under the 'Parents' section



Attendance and absence

The Department for Education have advised that attendance is mandatory and the usual rules on attendance will continue to apply. We continue to monitor attendance across school stringently as well as tracking weekly levels of punctuality per class. School will contact parents/ carers of children who are showing habits of lateness or poor attendance to offer any support.

Medical evidence may be required for persistent absences and letters/ texts will be sent as a reminder to any parents/carers who fall into this category.

The vast majority of children attend school every day, making the best possible progress in their learning. Rewards are given during our weekly phase assemblies, with the classes earning the highest level of attendance receiving 'eggs in the nest' and a special Purple Punctuality egg for the highest percentage of children being on time every day.

Requests for leave of absence during term time (eg) for holidays re-scheduled due to Covid cancellations are unable to be authorised. Please see the DfE information below.

Can a parent take their child on holiday during term time?

Head teachers should only authorise leave of absence in exceptional circumstances. If a head teacher grants a leave request, it will be for the head teacher to determine the length of time that the child can be away from school. Leave is unlikely, however, to be granted for the purposes of a family holiday as a norm.

Covid Summary of Isolation Procedures

To try to make it clearer for parents/ carers, we have added a summary table below of situations / actions required regarding Covid -19. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Situation	Action
Child has no symptoms, but is waiting for a test result	Child can come to school
Child has symptoms and is waiting for a test result	Child should stay at home and wait for the test results
Child has symptoms but has tested negative	Child can come to school if well enough
Child has tested positive (Lateral Flow)	Child should stay at home and get a PCR test
Child has tested positive (PCR)	Child should isolate for 10 days from the test result/start of symptoms
Child has tested positive (Lateral Flow) but negative (PCR)	Child can come to school
Other people in the child's household have tested positive but the child has no symptoms	Child can come to school while awaiting a test
Other people in the child's household have tested positive but the child has tested negative	Child can come to school

Breakfast and Teatime Club

Bookings for Breakfast and Tea Time Club must be made and paid for at the main office by 12pm on a Friday, for the following week. Due to staff/pupil ratios, we cannot take bookings on the day therefore advance booking is essential to secure your child's place. All payment must be made at the school office and not to club staff. Thank you.

Change in circumstances

If you have recently changed your address, mobile phone etc. please make sure you let the office know so that we are able to contact you quickly in the event of an emergency. If you wish to change school meal arrangements (moving to packed lunch), we require 1 week's notice, please. Thank you



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Term Dates 2021 - 22

Please note: school will be closed for staff training on the following dates:

- Wednesday 1st September 2021
- Friday 22nd October 2021
- Friday 17th December 2021
- Friday 18th February 2022
- Friday 27th May 2022

	Break up after school on	Return to school
Autumn 1 (October Half Term)	Thursday 21 st October 2021 <i>(NB school closed Friday 22nd for staff training)</i>	Monday 1 st November 2021
Autumn 2 (Christmas)	Thursday 16 th December 2021 <i>(NB school closed for staff training on Friday 22nd December 2021)</i>	Tuesday 4 th January 2022
Spring 1 (February Half Term)	Thursday 17 th February 2022 <i>(NB school closed for staff training on Friday 19th February 2022)</i>	Monday 28 th February 2022
Spring Term 2 (Easter)	Friday 8 th April 2022	Monday 25 th April 2022
Summer Term 1 (Whit Week)	Thursday 26 th May 2022 <i>(NB school closed for staff training on Friday 27th May 2022)</i>	Tuesday 7 th June (Closed for Bank Holiday)
Summer Term 2 (Summer)	Friday 22 nd July	Tuesday 6 th September 2022

Mrs Page ©
Head Teacher

