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11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to school. I have seen so many children skip into school delightfully and I must say, I have also seen many happy parents too. It is good to be back.

The safety and wellbeing of our school community remains our highest priority, we have put measures in place and we continue to monitor the effectiveness and make changes where possible. I am glad that our attendance is higher than similar years at this point and I am grateful to you for trusting us with your children.

That said, drop-off and collection has presented a challenge to all schools and we are tweaking and adjusting continuously to improve safety and efficiency. And I want to thank you for your patience and cooperation, it must have been frustrating at times, please bear with us. It has been a very tough challenge for all schools.

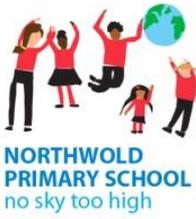
Our aim for drop-off and collection is safety and infection prevention. In addition, we must keep our streets free from huge congregations, which endangers both parents and pupils, particularly around busy roads. It also enables the spread of the virus. We must be considerate to our neighbours and ensure social distancing. Public health encourages the wearing of masks, if possible but advocates 1m plus social distancing. We need your help with this to keep everyone safe.

Pupil drop-off has improved in the last few days with the new measures, I know it is hard to say goodbye to your children at the gate but this has been very helpful in clearing the roads and improving social distancing. Again, I am very grateful for your support with this.

End of day pupil collection has been more challenging but there are signs that allowing a loop through the playground has been more successful. It also means some contact with teachers but please keep conversations to the minimum and contact the school office or the teachers by email. Another aim for the changes has been to facilitate multiple collection of children, please help us by moving swiftly on as soon as you have picked up your children.

During the school day, we have continued with our measures to safeguard children. We risk assess entry, break, lunchtimes and end of day. We wash hands often and clean surfaces.

Finally, I want to thank you again for your support.



I hope you have a restful weekend.

Warmest Regards,
Maureen Okoye
Executive Headteacher
Chief Executive
Arbor Academy Trust