



**North Tyneside Council**

Education, Learning and Skills  
**Early Years and School Improvement Service**  
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This matter was dealt with by Diane Buckle

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Dear Parents

We are delighted to be welcoming our pupils back to school this week. We recognise this latest period of school closure has been incredibly difficult for many pupils who have missed seeing their friends and teachers. It has been equally difficult for those of you who have been managing home learning, while juggling your own work commitments. We appreciate just how difficult it can be and want to say a big thank you for all you have done and are continuing to do.

We all hope and pray that this is the last lock down we need to endure and that a much brighter summer awaits us as we begin the gradual easing of restrictions. However, we must remain vigilant and with the excitement of schools re-opening we would urge you to continue to follow the important hands face space recommendations, as we move through this next, and most important phase of our national recovery.

For some of our older pupils, a return to school will see them offered home tests, and an extension to the wearing of face coverings in classes where social distancing is difficult. This will be reviewed at Easter, and while not mandated, we would ask that as many of you as possible follow this guidance as an additional precautionary measure. Our school leaders are working hard to make sure the return to school is as smooth as possible and that our schools remain safe places to learn.

May I take this opportunity, to thank you in advance of your support.

Best wishes

**Diane Buckle**  
**Assistant Director, Education**