



SUNNYSIDE PRIMARY ACADEMY

1st September 2021

Hello!

It is with great pleasure that I join the staff team at Sunnyside Primary. I have been Principal at an academy in Corby for the last eight years and am delighted to have the opportunity to work at Sunnyside this term.

We are excited to be welcoming the children back to school next week and getting to know all of our new starters. We are all really hoping for a much more settled academic year, after all the disruption we have had over the last two years due to Covid-19. Some essential information and updates ahead of our return to school next week can be found below.

I will be out on the gates every day, so please do come and say 'hello'. Working in partnership with parents underpins everything we do at school and is essential in order to achieve the best possible outcomes for our children. I will also be sending out a questionnaire in the first couple of weeks to get your feedback on things that we do well at Sunnyside and things that we need to improve. I am really looking forward to working in partnership with you.



Covid-19 operating procedures

The latest government guidance for schools sets out the following system of controls:

- 1 Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
- 2 Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
- 3 Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- 4 Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Our Covid-19 risk assessment can be found on our website, [Covid-19 risk assessment](#).

The relaxation in restrictions mean that some of the operating procedures we previously had in place have changed:

- Children will not be kept in 'bubbles'.
- The one-way system around the school site is no longer in place.
- Face masks are not routinely required on the school site, though they are still recommended for crowded areas.
- NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify close contacts.
- Parents still must not enter the school building (cloakrooms, classrooms etc) at the start and end of the school day, but the academy office will be open to parents as normal.

Full government guidance explained for parents can be found here: [Government Covid-19 guidance explained](#).

Gates

The timings for September opening of the academy gates are below. Adjusted timings that were in place last year to support Covid operating procedures have now been lifted.

Mornings: Gates open at 8:40am. Classroom doors open at 8:45am. Gates close at 8:55am.

Afternoons: Gates open at 3:20pm. Classroom doors open at 3:30pm.

Uniform

At Sunnyside Primary Academy we place an emphasis on pride in our community. A visible indication of this is in the standard of our pupils' uniform.

Having a school uniform is important because it:

- Builds a sense of identity and belonging
- Instils a sense of pride in the Academy
- Protects children from social pressures
- Encourages positive behaviour
- Is practical and smart and prepares children for the future world of work.

Full information on uniform expectations and ordering, can be found on the academy website, [uniform information](#).

PE

Children should come to school in their PE kit on PE days. Our academy PE kit is part of our school uniform and is set out in our academy uniform policy. Academy PE kit should be plain and items with branded sports logos are not acceptable – most supermarkets sell plain PE kit items.

	EYFS & KS1	KS2
MONDAY	Mercury, Venus & Mars	Jupiter, Neptune, Uranus & Buzz Aldrin
TUESDAY	Mars	Tim Peake
WEDNESDAY	Sun & Stars	Neil Armstrong, Neptune, Tim Peake & Buzz Aldrin
THURSDAY		Neil Armstrong & Uranus
FRIDAY	Mercury, Venus, Sun & Stars	Jupiter

Attendance

Our whole school attendance target for 2021-22 is **98%**, in line with national expectations.

Attendance continues to be a key focus for us at Sunnyside, especially after the disruption to education caused by the Covid-19 pandemic over the last two years. Department for Education research has shown a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement. There are only 190 days where children MUST, by law, be in school. This means that if a child misses just 8 school days - they are out of school for more days of the year than they are in school. There are 175 days of breaks and weekends every year.

Regular Communication

Our weekly newsletter, Inside Sunnyside, is sent by email every Friday – with the first issue being sent on Friday 10th September. Please make sure that we have up to date contact information, including email addresses, for you throughout the school year. You can also follow us on Twitter - @SunnysideAcad and access our website to find out what is happening at school.

I look forward to meeting you all soon.



Mrs K Rolf
Interim Principal