



# Stanley Crook Primary School

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OUR MISSION: TO TRY OUR BEST, TO TELL THE TRUTH, TO LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER AND THE COMMUNITY

*"Pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare is OUTSTANDING" (Ofsted, 2019)*

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24.08.2021

## School Organisation 2021/22

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the ongoing updates to government guidance regarding the return to school of all children for the Autumn term and new academic year, I am pleased to be able to again confirm arrangements regarding school organisation for 2021/2022 academic year. More detail on the broader organisation of school is also included throughout this letter in relation to the structure of the school day and extended wraparound provision.

Since the beginning of the COVID pandemic in March 2020, there has been much disruption to the education of children. With new government guidance now in place for the start of the academic year in September, everyone is very much looking forward to getting back to more normality and reducing disruption, which has impacted delivery of provision in the previous two academic years.

Indicators in school from last academic year provide evidence and broad reassurance that the Curriculum Recovery Strategy, which has been in place since September 2020, has been effective in supporting children's academic recovery and emotional wellbeing. Due to further lockdowns, partial school closures and periods of isolation for children last academic year, the recovery strategy will extend into the new academic year, as plans are implemented towards re-establishing the full curriculum offer in September 2021.

Strategic priorities for curriculum recovery in the new academic year will remain as:

- Academic recovery
- Re-establishing the full curriculum offer
- Promoting positive mental/ physical health and wellbeing

The challenges presented by COVID need not and should not be seen as an obstacle to delivering on future plans for school improvement. Rather, COVID has provided a range of exciting and positive opportunities moving forward into the new academic year with regards changes to school organisation, curriculum redesign and enhancements to wellbeing provision and support – all of which will continue to deliver on our core objective of improving outcomes for all pupils.

Although guidance is allowing for an end to restrictions in school, which will allow children to come together once again, be with their friends and get back into more normal routines, COVID is still present in our community and we all must therefore continue to be vigilant and follow guidance on isolation and reporting in the event of positive cases. It is very much my hope that our school and the children are unaffected by ongoing reports of positive cases; however, a COVID risk assessment will remain in place to provide broad reassurance to all members of our school community as school reopens for the new academic year and restrictions ease.

The previous 'bubble' organisation will end, as will the staggered start times for each Team. Following the positive parent/ carer response to summer term consultation on staggered start and finish times for EYFS/ KS1 and KS2, I can again confirm that these new times will begin for the start of the new academic year. As detailed in previous communications, it is my hope that these staggered times will reduce congestion along the lane and improve the safety of children and their families as they arrive and leave school. The number of children on roll this academic year is equalling our highest number from 2017/2018, with projections forecasting a further increase in the new two academic years. Therefore, it is important to take action to improve the safety of children and their families by tackling congestion along the lane and easing access for drop off and pick up.

A reminder of start and finish times is provided below:

- **TEAM DONALDSON and TEAM DAHL** – 9:00am to 3:15pm
- **TEAM COWELL, TEAM WALLIAMS and TEAM MORPURGO** – 8:45am to 3:00pm

Children in Team Donaldson and/ or Team Dahl and who are younger siblings of children in Team Cowell, Team Walliams and Team Morpurgo can arrive at school with their older siblings. These children will also finish school at 3:00pm, with their older siblings.

In order to control congestion and to provide greater ease of access to school, we ask that children in Team Cowell, Team Walliams and Team Morpurgo (with younger siblings from Team Donaldson and/ or Team Dahl) arrive on the school yard NO LATER than 8:40am. Team staff will be on the yard from 8:40am to welcome the children and begin transitioning children from the yard into school and their classrooms. Please be aware that no staff supervision will be on the yard before 8:40am. Therefore, we recommend that all children are supervised by parents/ carers/ a responsible adult before that time.

For children in Team Donaldson and Team Dahl (who do not have older siblings in Team Cowell, Team Walliams and/ or Team Morpurgo), we ask that children arrive on the yard for 8:55am. We kindly request that children do not arrive too early as to support the traffic from Key Stage 2 Teams to exit the yard and lane.

Children in Team Donaldson, Team Cowell, Team Walliams and Team Morpurgo will enter school at the start of the school day via the main yard door. Team Dahl will enter school via their entrance on the 'top yard'.

Collection of children will begin at 3:00pm with Team Cowell, Team Walliams and Team Morpurgo (plus younger siblings from Team Donaldson and/ or Team Dahl). Parents/ carers are invited onto the school yard from 2:50pm. For Key Stage 2 collection at 3:00pm, children can be collected from the following exit points:

- **Team Cowell** children and younger siblings will be collected from the Team Cowell class/ yard door
- **Team Walliams** children and younger siblings will be collected from the hall/ yard door
- **Team Morpurgo** children and younger siblings will be collected from the main yard door

For collection of children in Team Donaldson and Team Dahl at 3:15pm, parents/ carers are invited onto the school yard from 3:10pm. Children can be collected from the following exit points:

- **Team Donaldson** children can be collected from the main yard door
- **Team Dahl** children can be collected from their entrance/ exit on the 'top yard'

We politely request that parents/ carers who need to speak with their child's class teacher, contact the school office to request a call back or to make a mutually convenient appointment time to meet. This will further support a swift transition between drop offs and pickups for children across all key stages and enable congestion along the lane to be properly managed. Thank you.

I have included below a reminder of school organisation for 2021/22:

School organisation will be as follows:

- **TEAM DONALDSON – Reception and Year 1**  
Mrs Wilkinson, Miss Brown, Mrs Ross-Hawkins (SEND Support) & Mrs Barnett\* (SEND Support)
- **TEAM DAHL – Year 1 and Year 2**  
Mrs Martin, Mrs Shields and Mrs Barnett\* (SEND Support)
- **TEAM COWELL – Year 3 and Year 4**  
Mrs Graham, Miss Gill, Mrs Kyle\* & Miss Mavin (SEND Support)
- **TEAM WALLIAMS – Year 4 and Year 5**  
Mr Teasdale and Mrs Corrigan
- **TEAM MORPURGO – Year 5 and Year 6**  
Miss Williams, Miss Rowcroft and Mrs Kyle\*

\*Mrs Barnett will be supporting children in both Team Donaldson and Team Dahl

\*Mrs Kyle will be providing targeted teaching and learning support in both Team Cowell and Team Morpurgo

At Stanley Crook Primary School, we believe in providing all pupils with the very best educational opportunities in order that they are able to reach their full potential - **Staff are committed to improving outcomes for all pupils.**

Despite our growing pupil roll, I have been able to maintain an extremely positive staff: pupil ratio. Throughout all Teams, pupils are able to enjoy this low staff: pupil ratio, which enables positive relationships to be quickly established, targeted support to be provided and teaching and learning to be highly effective. All Team rooms are 'I can zones' and our notion of T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Achieves More) provides a clear framework for both Teachers and Pupils to learn in a dynamic, creative and fun environment.

Teaching in school focuses on 'stages not ages' and pupils will be mobile between Teams across all areas of the curriculum based upon an assessment of each individual pupil's strengths and areas for development. Separate letters have been sent to parents of pupils in Y1, Y4 and Y5 cohorts in July, outlining organisation in more detail and to provide additional information.

Induction meetings will be held in early September, which will provide opportunities for parents to meet their child's new class teacher and ask any questions about the new academic year. More information on dates for these meetings will be provided week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> September.

I would like to again extend a warm welcome to Miss Gill – who joins our school as teacher in Team Cowell, alongside Mrs Graham. Miss Gill begins her career with us following an outstanding teaching practice at Durham University and I am very much looking forward to her meeting with the children in her Team and getting to know parents/ carers.

Mrs Kyle will provide excellent support to both teachers, while also utilising Wednesday mornings to deliver her range of mental health, emotional wellbeing and personal development programmes - including, Apple's/ Zippy's friends, Therapeutic Story Writing and other well-being support.

In September, we welcome 19 new starters to school in our reception cohort. Once again, our school was heavily over-subscribed with more than 40 applications for places! Thank you to Mrs Wilkinson for liaising with parents of new starters in order that we may begin to have a good understanding of our new reception cohort. Thank you also to Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs Martin for their work in liaising with parents of pupils moving into Year 1 in September, regarding their preferences for placement of their child, next academic year. For the last several years, the 'split' of Year 1 between Team Donaldson and Team Dahl has been extremely effective at ensuring each child is placed in the correct Team for them. Through a process of meticulous planning based on a clear understanding of the needs of each individual child, while also taking into consideration the wishes of parents/ carers, decisions around this 'split' have resulted in continued outstanding improvements to Year 1 and Year 2 outcomes in statutory assessments as well as enhancing personal development skills and general wellbeing within our youngest children in school.

Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs Martin have carefully planned the placements of Year 1 children to account for a range of individual needs in both Teams, as well as identifying which Team presents the best setting for each individual child to achieve and progress. Separate communication was made in July to parents of pupils in next year's Year 1 cohort to advise on which Team their child will be in. However, I am pleased that we have been able to meet the wishes of all parents of children in this year group. Miss Brown, Mrs Ross-Hawkins and Mrs Barnett will provide excellent support to Mrs Wilkinson and the children in Team Donaldson.

Mrs Martin and Mrs Shields will continue their excellent partnership and utilise their vast experience and expertise within leading teaching and learning in Team Dahl. Mrs Shields will also continue to deliver a range of personal wellbeing programmes to our pupils in Key Stage 1.

At the start of the new academic year, Mrs Barnett will work between Team Donaldson and Team Dahl continuing her excellent work in school, providing 1:1 specialist SEND support.

Mr Teasdale and Mrs Corrigan will continue to work together in Team Walliams, supporting children in Year 4 and Year 5. This partnership is now well established and is an effective pairing in delivering provision to children in these two important year groups, as they move into upper Key Stage 2 and Year 6.

Miss Williams and Miss Rowcroft will also continue their excellent partnership teaching in Team Morpurgo. Next year, this team will be a mix of Year 5/ Year 6 children - essentially, the children who were in Team Walliams last academic year will move together into Team Morpurgo. Both Miss Williams and Miss Rowcroft work exceptionally well as a team and are highly effective in not only planning for improving outcomes for all children as they move into their final stage of education at Stanley Crook Primary School, but also within the relationships they form with our Year 6 pupils in order to further raise aspiration and achievement.

**The new school year will begin for all children on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.**

**Breakfast Clubs and After-School Provision will begin on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.**

Breakfast Club will operate from 8:00am – Monday to Friday. Entrance via yard/ hall door. Last entry 8:30am.

After School provision will also operate Monday-Friday until 5:30pm and will be led by Mrs Vasey and Ms Mason. Collection of children at both 4:15pm and 5:30pm will be via hall/ yard door. **Collection of children is to be made promptly.**

Thank you to those parents/ carers who have already booked places for their children at Breakfast Club and/ or After-School provision. Booking must be made in advance as places are limited. Please contact the school office on 01388762858 or via [stanleycrook@durhamlearning.net](mailto:stanleycrook@durhamlearning.net) for more information on this provision or to request a place at either club.

I hope that this information has provided a small degree of reassurance to parents/ carers regarding the start of the new academic year. Rest assured, the safety and wellbeing of all children, their families, our staff team and community will continue to be at the forefront of any planning and delivery of provision.

Thank you for your continued support and enjoy the remainder of the summer break.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D Christie  
Headteacher

**Stanley Crook Primary School is committed to improving outcomes for all pupils**



SCHOOL  
MEMBER

