



Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School

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2nd September 2020

Dear Families,

I don't think I ever imagined I would start a new headship in the middle of a global pandemic but then I'm not sure that a pandemic had ever crossed my mind prior to March this year. What a steep learning curve for us all!

This letter is just a brief introduction to me as it will be harder than usual to meet many of you in person this term. It also contains some important information regarding our current safety measures and procedures. There will be a full newsletter soon with key information and dates for the coming year.

I have moved from Viewley Hill Academy in Middlesbrough where I was Headteacher from January 2012. I have always been a teacher and have worked in a number of schools in the north east – despite being from Liverpool originally! I am delighted to finally be here and I am very much looking forward to working with you all and continuing to build on the many strengths of Prior's Mill CE Primary School. There has been a significant amount of work undertaken to ensure that school is ready to reopen to all children with appropriate safety measures in place. All staff have been fully briefed on our procedures and expectations and I am confident that everyone is working together to promote a safe, welcoming and positive environment for your children.

As you are aware, attendance at school is once again mandatory from 1st September and we are looking forward to having a full school once again. However, there is strict government guidance regarding when **not** to send your child which we need every family to follow in order to keep us all safe:

Do not send your child to their nursery, childminder, school or college if:

- they are showing [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)
- someone in their household is showing symptoms



Arrange a test if you or your child develops symptoms. Inform your nursery, childminder, school or college of the results.

If the test is positive, follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection, and engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.

Face coverings are not recommended for use in primary schools however we understand that some children may prefer to wear a covering on their way to or from school. If this is the case, children should bring a sealable plastic bag to store the covering in once removed and should wash their hands prior to and after touching the covering at any time. We will support children in school with this practice.

You can find the full guidance to parents [here](#).

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome your children back to school today; they have been incredibly sensible and responsible. Thank you for all you have done to continue their learning during the summer term and to prepare them for a successful return to school. If you are new, like me, then I hope you have also had a brilliant first day! I look forward to getting to know you all better over the coming months and years.

If you have any immediate concerns or queries, please email or telephone the school office and your query will be directed to the most appropriate member of staff.

Kind regards,

Mrs H Malbon
Headteacher

