



Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

School Number 840 3087

Westcroft

Stanhope

Bishop Auckland

Co Durham

DL13 2NU

Tel: 01388 528218

Email: [admin@stanhopebarrington.org.uk](mailto:admin@stanhopebarrington.org.uk)

Website: [stanhopebarrington.org.uk](http://stanhopebarrington.org.uk)

Dear Parent/Carer

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

**Re: Full Re-opening of School**

Following the Prime Minister's announcement last night, I am writing to let you know how delighted the whole team are to be able to welcome back all of our children on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

I am currently working through the implications of the guidance but hope that things will reflect the arrangements we had in place during the Autumn Term with regard to staggered start and collection times; maintenance of bubbles etc. Once I have updated our Risk Assessment for 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021, this will be shared with you all via our website as usual.

We are particularly excited to welcome the children into the new Learning Zones. We are currently redecorating and rearranging our old 'Classroom 1' into the Sapphire Learning Zone which will be ready and open on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. This is a really exciting development and will allow us to deliver flexible learning for our younger children.

Our focus for the first couple of weeks will be about supporting our children to return to school, to feel safe and secure and to ensure they are in a place (both mentally and academically) to move forward. There is an awful lot of negative press about how much children have 'missed' or 'lost' during lockdown but we will be taking a really positive stance and will be helping the children to celebrate what they have gained during lockdown by encouraging them to recognise and share their positive experiences; to explore the skills and knowledge they have gained and how this will help them to cope with whatever life throws at them.

We are planning for each Learning Zone to take part in exciting outdoor learning opportunities which will help them to re-establish friendships, develop team work and ignite and inspire their love of learning.

There is significant pressure from the DfE and government in terms of 'catch up' with expectations of intervention groups and even suggestions of after school lessons and Summer Schools. We will, of course, ensure every child is given every opportunity to make accelerated progress –

Stanhope Barrington CE Primary School is part of the Durham Diocesan MAT. Durham Diocesan MAT is a company limited by guarantee (company number [10847279](#)) and exempt charity registered in England and Wales at Cuthbert House, Stonebridge, Durham, DH1 3RY.



hence the introduction of our Learning Zones – however, this will be done in a nurturing, supportive and positive way and in a way that will be mindful of everyone’s emotional well-being.

I will be issuing further information regarding the practicalities of our Risk Assessment effective from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March over the next few days but if you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

*Mrs D Cross*

Mrs D Cross  
Head Teacher

Stanhope Barrington CE Primary School is part of the Durham Diocesan MAT. Durham Diocesan MAT is a company limited by guarantee (company number [10847279](#)) and exempt charity registered in England and Wales at Cuthbert House, Stonebridge, Durham, DH1 3RY.

