

26th February 2021

Re-Opening of School to ALL Children

Dear Parents and Carers

We are very happy and excited to be reuniting our children on Monday 8th March. We have been working hard to ensure that all measures are in place to make their return as safe, smooth and enjoyable as possible. Please note that from 8th March, the reporting procedures for school attendance/absence will return to normal, therefore your child **must attend school**.

We have decided, in the best interests of the children, to focus on children's' social, emotional and personal skills in the first few days. As you will be aware, half of our children have been in school with the other half at home. Whilst we tried to ensure a degree of 'normality' for all the children it will still be very different to the last few months, and whilst we recognise that the children will be excited to see each other and be back in school, we are anticipating some settling in issues. Therefore, teachers will be focussing on friendships, collaboration, resilience, stamina and pace in the first week. We will also be running our whole school team challenge (albeit on a smaller scale) to give all the children to opportunity to have a lovely treat together at the end of the term. Your child's class teacher will be in touch with more details when the children are back in school

Parent Consultation Evenings

We decided to postpone our consultation evenings until school reopens. As there are only three weeks until the Easter break, we will conduct our consultations at the very start of the summer term. This will allow time for the children to settle and give teachers the opportunity to assess the children.

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR RETURNING TO SCHOOL

- Please note, as part of our continued safety measure, the children will remain in their class bubbles and will not be mixing with other year groups. We will be exploring ways to bring the children together but this will be remotely.
- Explain and emphasise to your child the importance of regular hand washing (and how to do this properly), and of using a tissue when they sneeze or cough and disposing of it properly. The attached poster and the following links may be helpful:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeIWLnEg>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMQBumkdQR0>
- Please remind your child about the importance of listening to and following their teachers' instructions when they are in school.
- Give your child lots of reassurance about returning to school. Despite the restriction in the autumn term, our school was a hive of activity with wonderful, engaging and imaginative activities across the curriculum; it is our intention that this will continue.
- Encourage your child to talk to you or a member of staff in school if they are worried or unsure about anything.

DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP

- Please check the drop off and pick up times for your child's year group (aka bubble) on the separate table of information.
- When dropping off and picking up, please can only **ONE parent accompany your child**.
- Once the gates are open, your child may enter the playground.
- **Please observe social distancing guidance** at all times in the playground and outside the gates and do not let your children play with other children at these times.
- A member of staff for each group will direct the children to their classroom. Please send your child to that member of staff, taking it in turns in order to help the children keep their distance.
- Please then **leave as quickly as possible** to help avoid the area becoming overcrowded
- At home time, the gates will be opened and you may wait for your child in the playground.
- A member of staff will bring their class out and will send them to parents one at a time.
- **Please observe social distancing guidance at all times and please leave as quickly as possible.**
- If your child normally walks to and home from school on their own, please remind them of the importance of social distancing on their way into and out of school.
- **Rather than approach teachers in the playground, if you have a message about your child, or a question, query or concern please use the HWPGeneral email address, the class e-mail address or call the school office.**
- There will be no after-school clubs running during the final three weeks of this term. We will then review the situation and hope to re-open some of our after school clubs.

WHAT YOUR CHILD SHOULD/SHOULD NOT BRING INTO SCHOOL

- **Children will continue to wear uniform** – please refer to the school website for our uniform policy.
- For playtimes and outdoor activities, please ensure that your child has suitable outdoor clothing (including a waterproof coat) and shoes.
- You will be informed which day your child will be doing **PE - please send your child in their school PE uniform on that day** (details of which can be found on the school website).
- Your child should bring a book bag (to help with storage, the flat school book bags are preferable to large back packs). To reduce the amount of items passing between home school, please do not send play equipment or toys etc
- If your child is bringing their own packed lunch, they may bring a packed lunch bag – preferably one that can easily be cleaned.
- If your child may require a change of clothes whilst at school, please send this in a named plastic carrier bag. This will be kept in school and only sent home if used.
- Please remember to send in a labelled water bottle - WATER ONLY

Staggered start and finish times

In order to ease the congestion, we have amended our start and finish times; please see below:

Foundation	8.40 - 3.10
Year 1 and Year 2	8.45 - 3.15
Year 3 and Year 4	8.50 - 3.25
Year 5 and Year 6	8.55 - 3.30

Please can we respectfully ask that you stick to these times. We will of course waver the times in adverse weather conditions.

KEY INFORMATION REGARDING SUSPECTED CASES OF COVID-19

- **If your child displays symptoms of COVID19** (high temperature, persistent cough or loss/change to sense of taste or smell) **DO NOT SEND THEM TO SCHOOL.**
- **Arrange for your child to be tested** and ring school to let us know.
- **Please notify us if your child tests positive.** It is essential we know this as the rest of the group (including staff) must be sent home to self-isolate for 10 days.
- **If your child's test comes back as negative your child MUST still self-isolate for 10 days.**
- If your child tests positive, the rest of the family must isolate for 10 days.
- If your child is in a class that has been asked to self-isolate (because someone else in the class has tested positive) and they develop symptoms themselves within their 10 day isolation period they should get a test. If the test is negative they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 10 day period. If the test is positive they must inform the school immediately and isolate for 10 days from the onset of their symptoms
- If your child is generally unwell (even with symptoms that are not listed as the main COVID symptoms), please do not send them to school. Please ring the school office to let us know.
- If your child becomes unwell at school we will follow the procedures detailed on our risk assessment (sent previously) and contact you immediately.

Many thanks, in advance, for your cooperation and continued support. Should you have any further questions, queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us by telephoning on 01325 720028; by emailing HWPGeneral@hurworthprimary.com; or by emailing using your child's class email address.

We look forward to seeing everyone back together on Monday 8th March.

Best wishes

Mrs Maddison
Head Teacher