



Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School Academy

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Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carer,

Welcome

I would like to offer a warm welcome back to all of our families who have returned after the Summer Holidays and to those who are joining the school for the first time. The journey to this point since March has been long and difficult for many of us but it is my hope that this academic year will be as safe and successful as it possibly can be. Since being back, the children have quickly settled into new school routines and have already started to produce some fantastic work. During the past few weeks and months the staff have worked with me to ensure that the school can adapt to meet the needs of our children ensuring that everyone is provided with the academic or emotional support that they require. It is our aim to continue to offer rewarding and enjoyable experiences over the next year which will allow the children to reconnect with their learning journey. As a team, we will continue to develop and improve our provision, during the year, to ensure that we enable the children to meet their full potential whilst providing them with life-long memories.

Planning/possible changes

As I am sure you can appreciate, the planning for our partial reopening in the Summer Term and our full reopening in September has been rigorous to ensure that we are able to offer the best educational and wellbeing opportunities for the children in the safest way possible. My decision making has been and will always be led by the safety of the children, staff and families. With this in mind, I would like to make parents aware that the school's plans may be changed over the coming weeks and months to ensure we follow the most up-to-date guidance and suggested procedures. I will endeavour to ensure that any required changes are implemented as soon as practicably possible.

School's response to COVID related incidents

As a school we are likely to be faced with three potential COVID situations during the next year - these are outlined below:

A member of a bubble needing to self-isolate for precautionary reasons - This is likely to be because they have been in close contact with someone who has either symptoms or has had a positive test result for COVID-19. They will not have symptoms themselves. **If your child is in the bubble with**

someone who is self-isolating for precautionary reason, they will still be able to attend school as normal.

A member of a bubble needing to self-isolate as they are demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms - In this instance, a member of the bubble would have one or more of the following symptoms: a new continuous cough, a temperature or a loss/change of their sense of smell or taste. Unfortunately, these symptoms are also symptoms of many other common illnesses. With this in mind, I would like to reassure parents that despite the likelihood of receiving a high number of notifications relating to these types of incidents in your child's bubble - many will not be COVID-19 related. The person demonstrating any of these symptoms will not be allowed to re-enter the school until they have returned a negative COVID-19 test result or have isolated for 10 days since developing symptoms. **If your child is in the bubble with someone who is self-isolating because they are demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms, they will still be able to attend school as normal until advised otherwise.**

Wider members of the bubble needing to self-isolate as someone from the bubble they have been in close contact with has COVID-19 - In the event of any member within a bubble contracting COVID-19 we will discuss the need of self-isolation with local authorities and our local Public Health England Team. The response to a positive result will be quick to ensure that we reduce the risk for other bubbles. Any self-isolation linked to coming in contact with someone who has tested positive will last for 14 days in line with government guidance. If children are asked to self-isolate for 14 days and are not showing symptoms, they will be provided with work to complete at home. **If your child is in the bubble with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, it is highly likely they will have to self-isolate for 14 days.**

Children at HINS work in class bubbles - the only time bubbles interact as year groups is during Breakfast and After School Club. If a child (who attends Breakfast or After School Club) has mixed with another child who then tests positive for COVID-19, they would also be asked to self-isolate as they would have been in close contact with someone who has the virus.

As soon as I am aware of any of the three scenarios set out in the above sections I will communicate with parents. I will also keep parents aware of the changes in any ongoing situation in a timely manner. As the symptoms for COVID-19 are so generic, it is my feeling that I will be contacting parents on a regular occurrence regarding either children isolating for precautionary reasons or having developed symptoms. As I have stated previously, many of these incidents will not result in a positive COVID-19 result but I feel that it is important to build trust between school and home by communicating clearly and in a timely manner. This will allow parents and staff to be even more vigilant ensuring the safest level of risk for your child. I fully understand that the availability of tests is not as good as it should be at this current time and that this may leave children spending more time at home whilst they are waiting for a test but this procedure must be followed to protect us all.

Curriculum Meetings

During the week beginning 21st September 2020 and the following week, the teachers from each year group will hold a virtual curriculum meeting. The meetings will allow the teachers to explain all the information linked to curriculum, homework and the expectations for their child's new year group. Each year group will hold two meetings one at 10am and one at 6pm. If you are unable to attend either meeting, you will be able to access all of the paper work and presentations on the school's website by Monday 5th October 2020. The dates for the individual year groups can be found below -

Tuesday 22nd September 2020 - Reception Curriculum Meeting (10am / 6pm)

Wednesday 23rd September 2020 - Nursery Curriculum Meeting (10am / 6pm)

Thursday 24th September 2020 - Year 2 Curriculum Meeting (10am / 6pm)

Wednesday 30th September 2020 - Year 1 Curriculum Meeting (10am / 6pm)

The online meeting log in details and passwords will be supplied next week.

School forms

All forms that would have previously been completed in paper form have been replaced with online versions. This is to ensure that we are able to collect important information and consent in the safest and quickest way possible. The main forms that I require to be completed for all children are stated below:

Seesaw Consent Form

Photo Permission Form

Child Information Form

These forms can be found using the link below -

https://www.hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk/web/school_forms_2020-2021

If you would prefer to call the main office and complete the forms over the phone, please call between 9am and 3pm and Mrs Reader will complete the forms with you.

PE

During the past week, I have met with teachers, sports coaches and members of the Active Essex Team to discuss the best and safest way to provide the physical education and experiences our children need now they have returned to school. I am sure you will all agree that physical education is now more important than ever. As a school, we will be providing the children with two PE sessions a week, daily mental and physical wellbeing sessions as well as their active time at play time and lunch time.

After taking advice from many different groups, we have decided that as of Monday 21st September the children will need to come to school dressed in active wear on their PE days. This will need to consist of trainers, jogging bottoms/sports leggings, t-shirt and jumper/hoodie. There are many different benefits of the children attending school on these days in their kits - the whole session will be active instead of idle time whilst the children are getting changed, there will be no risk of children inadvertently swapping clothes and the outdoor areas will be able to be used for PE ensuring a better ventilated space for PE to take place in to name a few. The children will still be expected to wear uniform on the days that they are not completing PE. The PE days for your child's class can be found at the end of this letter. I will also ensure that PE days will also appear on the weekly newsletter. I will review this decision in December and will make a further announcement then about the following term. With this change in mind PE bags will be returned home by next Friday and will not need to be returned until we reintroduce changing at school. If you require any additional support with supply of PE kit, please contact Mrs Burls by phoning the main office. No jewellery should be worn on PE days. Staff will not be able to take earrings out and tape is no longer to be used to cover jewellery. If your child arrives at school on their PE day wearing jewellery, they will not be able to take part.

Leaving the site

Could I remind all parents that families should leave the school site as soon as the children are collected. I fully appreciate that the children may wish to play on the playground or climbing equipment but I would ask parents to ensure that they do not and exit via their nearest exit at the earliest opportunity. This is to ensure that we keep all of our children and families as safe as they can be.

Finally, on a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for the support they have shown the school in the past few months and especially in the past week. By following the new procedures, you are ensuring that together we have the best chance of protecting the whole community. By continuing to support the school in this way it is my hope that any disruption to the children's education this year will be limited.

Yours sincerely

Mr. S. Proctor

PE Days -

Stars - Monday

Flying Saucers - Wednesday and Thursday

Rockets - Monday

Galaxies - Tuesday and Thursday

Moons - Monday

Asteroids - Wednesday and Thursday

Planets - Monday and Wednesday

Satellites - Monday and Thursday

Astronauts - Tuesday and Wednesday