



**NEIGHT HILL
HIMBLETON
DROITWICH
WORCS.
WR9 7LE**

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HEADTEACHER: Mrs Gemma Martin

Monday 7th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! Thank you for all your support over the past few months and for all the amazing work that you have done with your children whilst home-schooling.

Following the re-opening of school to all pupils last week, I write to confirm details of how school is operating due to the ongoing risk of the virus and to outline possible action that may be required over the coming weeks and months. I appreciate that this letter is rather lengthy, but please do take the time to read and digest it as it does contain important information.

A full risk assessment was carried out prior to reopening and this was been submitted to the Local Authority, as required. The document and plans relating to this have been checked fully by members of their team and also by Public Health England. I am pleased to say that we have had confirmation that our plans and assessments are deemed to be robust in ensuring safety as far as possible by these bodies. All plans and risk assessments are ongoing and dynamic and we will of course update you of any required changes.

Operational and Logistics:

As outlined in the letter before the holidays, I would like to reiterate that the main safety measures that are being taken:

- Children operating in class groups/social bubbles.

Class:	Arrival:	Collection:	Entry Point:	Points to Note:
EYFS (Nursery and Reception)	8.40	3.00	EYFS green gate	Parents please wait on the right side of the playground (as you face the school) whilst maintaining a social distance from those around you and leave the site as swiftly as possible.
KS1 (Years 1 and 2)	8.40	3.00	Library door	Parents please wait on the left side of the playground (as you face the school) whilst maintaining a social distance from those around you and leave the site as swiftly as possible.

KS2 (Years 3 and 4)	8.50	3.10	Library door	Please wait on the playground and maintain a social distance from those around you and leave the site as swiftly as possible.
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- Staggered break and lunchtimes are used to limit contact between class groups/social bubbles. Each group eats in a separate location in school.
- Thorough hand washing upon arrival and at departure from school, as well as regularly throughout the day.
- Promotion of the 'Catch It, Bin It, Kill It' message.
- Children have their own labelled water bottles in school. These should be taken home, washed and refilled each day to ensure hygiene.
- Each class group/social bubble has allocated toilet facilities to use throughout the school day. These are cleaned regularly.
- Classroom spaces are set up to promote and support social distancing and limit face to face contact as much as is possible.
- Daily whole school assemblies are replaced by class assemblies. Celebration Assembly will still be held on a Friday in each class. Unfortunately parents will not be able to attend these for now but we will still inform you via text if your child gets an award.
- Children are allocated their own frequently used resources. Shared resources are regularly and thoroughly cleaned.
- Enhanced cleaning regimes have been adopted across the school.
- Staff members remain with their allocated class group as much as possible. However, in order to maintain high quality educational provision and due to the part-time nature of some contracts, there is some movement. When this occurs, staff work hard to maintain recommended social distancing measures, as far as it is safe and practicable to do so.
- Visitors to site are kept as limited as is possible. When visitors do come on to site, they are asked to sanitise their hands on arrival and departure. They are supervised and it is ensured that they maintain a social distance from anyone else on site. Depending on the reason for their visit and appropriateness, they may be asked to wear face covering.
- Extra-curricular clubs are being run in class groups/social bubbles to further reduce interaction across these.
- Suitable PPE is used when intimate care is required.
- Wearing of uniform has resumed. Please ensure that uniform is clean.
- The wearing of PE kits and Forest School kits has resumed. Please ensure your child has all that they need in school. These should be taken home each week for washing.

Symptoms and Actions:

- If your child or anyone in your household shows symptoms of the virus, your child should not attend school. A test should be booked for the person showing the symptoms via

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or by phoning NHS 119 if no internet access is available. Please inform us immediately should this situation arise.

- If any child in school shows any concerning symptoms, they will be isolated and parents will be contacted to collect them as soon as possible. Please ensure Mrs Stewart is made aware of any changes to contact details. Parents should then get their child tested so that the government's 'Test and Trace' programme can be utilised if there is a positive result and next steps can be determined swiftly. Please be aware that you will be asked to provide details of those that you and your child have been in contact with as part of this process if there is a positive result.
- The child should not attend school whilst awaiting a test result, nor should any siblings; they should remain in self-isolation.
- If a child or staff member tests positive for the virus, the school will work closely with the Health Protection Team to determine the required next steps.
- If and when your child or a member of your household is tested, please advise us of the result as soon as possible so that appropriate action can be taken.
- Please see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance> for more information about action needed should your household have a suspected or confirmed case of infection.

Please be assured that we will work collaboratively and supportively with any family who experiences symptoms and requires testing to ensure all necessary and appropriate action is taken.

Approach to the Curriculum

After such a prolonged period away from school, our initial priority is settling the children back into the school environment and allowing them to adapt to the necessary measures that are in place. We are working on making them feel safe, secure and developing a sense of belonging. We are also reinforcing important skills such as sharing, turn-taking and speaking and listening within a group.

Mental health and wellbeing is a key priority and this is being addressed in a variety of ways across the curriculum, from PSHE to the use of carefully selected high quality texts related to this theme to structure our English teaching.

During the first 2-3 weeks, we will be carrying out a range of informal assessment activities with the children to establish where they are working and identifying where each individual needs to go next. Our curriculum planning for this half-term focuses on securing crucial skills in English and Maths and providing many opportunities for rehearsal and application of these so as to ensure they are embedded. Home learning will support this, as well as projects that we hope will reignite enthusiasm and love for learning.

We look forward to working with our families as we move forward together. If you have any queries at all about the contents of this letter, then please do not hesitate to contact me at head@himbleton.worcs.sch.uk or by calling the school.

Kind regards,

Mrs Martin