



Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

### **HISN – Return to School**

We are very much looking forward to welcoming back all children to school on 8<sup>th</sup> March. Children will of course need to be in full school uniform, have their book bags and a named water bottle with them daily. PE kits should be worn to school on your child's PE day. The days for PE remain the same and this information can be found on the year group newsletter that was sent out on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

We have been reviewing the latest Government guidance and updating our risk assessments accordingly so that parents can feel confident that we are continuing to put a significant number of measures in place to keep children, staff and parents COVID safe at school.

We will continue with protective measures outlined below for all our children within school:

- Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- Cleaning hands thoroughly more often than usual.
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Continue with enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces, using standard products such as detergents.
- Encourage social distancing within school, however we realise for young children this is very difficult.
- Class bubbles maintained inside.
- Staff minimising the number of bubbles they work within.
- Staff accessing lateral flow tests twice weekly.
- Staggered drop off and pick up remains.
- Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated.

We would ask that if your child shows any COVID-19 symptoms, or someone in their household does, that they remain at home and self-isolate for 10 days. Please notify the school as soon as possible and let us know if and when you will be completing a COVID-19 test. Children will only be able to return to school either following a negative test result or following the 10 day isolation period.

### **Drop off and Pick up Arrangements**

Drop off and pick up arrangements times can be seen below. The staggered drop off and pick up times continue to be a vital element of the risk assessment that we have in place following the most recent DfE guidance. We continue to ask that parents only



attend school at the allocated times and only one adult per child when dropping or collecting. Please wear a face covering when on school grounds.

### **Drop off**

The drop off times in the mornings for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are organised so that we can stagger the number of children and adults on site. There is a 10 minute window for dropping your child off so please aim to arrive at the gate during this period to avoid queueing outside the school beforehand. Please park all bikes and scooters in the designated place at the front of the school office and remove helmets before entering the playground gate to help ensure a free flowing line. If you wish to drop your child just at the gate, that is fine, but please step away from the gate so others can still enter safely. If you need to get a non-urgent message to a member of staff, please either call the main office or email the info@ email address. There will also be a member of staff who can take a short messages at the drop off zone if more urgent.

Nursery: 8.30 Pick up: 11.30	Reception: 8.45-8.55
Year 1: 8.55-9.05	Year 2: 9.05-9.15

### **Pick up**

Please arrive promptly for your child's pick up time and line up on the yellow footprints in your child's class line. Your child will be released to you when you are at the front of the line. Please keep moving forward as the person in front of you leaves. When leaving, please leave between the metal posts and along the path at the front of the lines to avoid having to weave in and out of people in the other lines. If you need to speak to a member of staff at the end of the day, please move well away from the front of the line, preferably to the grass mound area, and the staff member will come to you once they have finished dismissing the class. To avoid congestion in the playground, please head straight out of the playground to help dismiss all children quickly and safely. We will not be able to dismiss the next child until the front of each line has cleared.

2.40-RY	3.00-1C and 1W
2.45-RD	3.05-1H and 1K
2.50-RF	3.10-2D and 2S
2.55-RJ	3.15-2P and 2T



## **Parent Consultations**

We have rearranged the parent consultations for the week beginning 15th March. The focus for these meetings will be on children's progress, attainment and learning behaviour as well as sharing next steps for learning. We are mindful that many children will have only been back in school for a week and will have had a varied experience of learning at home. However, we feel able to reflect on the areas outlined above following the autumn term, remote learning outcomes and teacher assessment in the first week of school reopening. Please ensure you use the online booking system outlined in the letter that will be sent later this week specifically about this.

## **Class Bubbles**

Following this period of school closure and in planning for the children to return to school, staff have been reviewing the impact of class bubbles and the following changes have been made for children returning on 8<sup>th</sup> March.

## **Intervention groups**

Intervention groups are set up to target specific areas of learning and are small groups of no more than 6 to 8 children at a time. For a learning intervention to have any impact on a child's overall progress it needs to take place at least three times a week. Therefore, we have made the decision that children will be in a mixed class group for any intervention that they may need. They will remain distant from children not in their class. Targeting children in a small year group bubble will ensure we can run interventions weekly for a wider range of children at least 3 or 4 times a week.

## **Reception**

We will continue to operate as we were in the second half of the autumn term. Children stay in their class bubble throughout the day inside and at lunchtime, however when the children access the outside area in the morning and afternoon they will mix as a year group. This will enable the children to have a greater length of time outside to really immerse themselves in play led learning as well as providing children with more space to move freely and to access the full range of outdoor resources. There will continue to be no more than 10 children outside from each class at a time and staff will monitor and record this.

The children will continue to be in class bubbles inside and at lunchtime both in the hall and when outside.

## **Year 1 and Year 2**

The children will remain in class bubbles and when in the classroom the children's desks will be arranged flexibly in order to support learning fully. The children will be in a mixed class group for any year group intervention.

When the children are outside for playtime and lunchtime they will be mixing as a year group. This will enable children to play with a wider range of children as well as providing them with more space to be active in as they will be able to use the entire playground.

In the hall at lunchtime children will eat their lunch in class bubbles.



The risk of transmission of COVID-19 is considerably lower outside than that of being inside and following this school closure we know that children will need the opportunity now more than ever to be physically active in a larger space as well as playing with their friends. We know this promotes a sense of confidence and wellbeing and will support learning in the classroom.

## **Home Support Platform**

Thank you so much for the positive feedback we have continued to receive from parents about our home learning platform.

<https://sites.google.com/hpp.school/homelearning/home>

As this term continues it is important that all families are still able to access the detailed resources staff have created to support home learning for all children. This site is updated every week during term time on a Monday evening. In the event of a class bubble closing or children having to self-isolate, this is where the resources will continue to be to support learning at home.

## **Clubs**

We are in the process of organising a staggered return to the clubs that we offer after school with the aim of these being up and running for the Summer term. This is in line with the most recent DfE guidance. We are very pleased that we are now able to do this as we know the extra-curricular activities available to the children are really important in supporting their wellbeing. Please look out for more information on this in the next couple of weeks.

## **Parent Support**

The parent community has continued to support the school throughout this school closure and we are very grateful for this support. The recent talent show organised by HISNA was fabulous. We loved seeing the videos of the children that entered. We know the children will enjoy the Easter Egg hunt that is planned for the end of this term as well as the events that are being planned for the summer term. The support given to staff through the treats in the staff room have been hugely appreciated.

Alongside the support to the school we know the efforts that families have gone to in supporting their child's learning at home and this has not gone unnoticed. We do not underestimate how challenging this period has been for many parents. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Ms H Lockey  
Executive Headteacher

Miss C Tester  
Head of School