



## HILLINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Learning and Achieving Together*

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Thursday 3rd September 2020

### Friday 4th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was good to see so many smiling faces today. Tomorrow we have our first full day back at school and I would just like to clarify a few things from today:

1. Parents/carers can wear face masks on the premises. However, please do not remove them on the school premises and please do not dispose of them on the school premises. Please check the correct way of wearing and removing a mask. Wearing them incorrectly could mean you unintentionally spread an infection.
2. Students should not wear masks on the school premises. According to DFE guidance that is based on scientific evidence this is not required for young children. The Elliot Foundation Academies Trust support this view and have instead stressed the importance of regular hand cleaning and social distancing as mitigating actions. At present, I believe it would be very hard for a young child to keep a mask on for the whole day. They would then start fiddling with it and again may unintentionally spread infections. Teachers use their voice to teach and seeing their face helps our students to learn. I know this position caused concern today for a very small group of parents however this is our position at present. We will of course continually monitor the situation and respond to any updated guidance from the DFE or TEFAT.
3. Please do practise social distancing. It is especially important tomorrow and going forward when we have more children, staff and parents on site at the same time.
4. Tomorrow students from Year 2 to Year 6 will enter the school building and go straight to their classroom. Parents may escort their child to the school playground. We ask parents to leave the school premises as soon as they know their child is safely in the school building. Staff will be monitoring the school gates. If your child is in Year 6, and you judge them to be sensible, then they can come into school, leaving a parent at the Uxbridge Road gates.
5. If parents wish their child to travel to and from school without a parent then they need to confirm this in writing to Mrs Childs ([schildts@hillingdonprimaryschool.org.uk](mailto:schildts@hillingdonprimaryschool.org.uk)) before doing so.

6. Dismissal arrangements will be the same as we practised today. If you are waiting outside a school door please stand back and practise social distancing. It was really impressive social distancing this afternoon - thank-you! We have a longer time period to dismiss the children and we will get quicker but we are aware that at the beginning this may take longer. Please leave the school premises as soon as possible.
7. Please follow the one way system - apologies if this means you circuit the school several times but it really did make a difference today and again keeps us all safe.
8. Again, members of the staff team will be there to guide and support families in the new arrival and dismissal routines.
9. Some students had a large bag/rucksack at school today. Unfortunately, we are not able to accommodate them at present - although I have to say there were some fantastic looking bags. Please keep them at home for the moment. Your child needs a book bag only.
10. Parents who are collecting a number of children from the school site do not have to leave the site if there is a gap in collection times.
11. Parents who have additional queries should make contact via the school email address and a member of staff will make contact. Unless it is an emergency staff will not be able to engage in detailed conversations. I am also aware that practising social distancing and maintaining confidentiality is not easy. So that we can support you, a telephone conversation will be easier and more confidential.
12. Please make sure that only one parent/carer enters the school site so we minimise the number of parents/carers collecting children.
13. We are dependent on all members of our school community working together and following our new routines so that we keep each other and mostly importantly the children safe, secure and happy. We appreciate your support, patience and flexibility at what we know continues to be a difficult time. *We appreciated your support and good humour today - thank-you.*

### **Reminder of the arrangements - Friday 4th September 2020**

**Please also make reference to the letter sent home yesterday, Wednesday 2nd September.**

- Students must attend school.

### **UNLESS**

#### **Students must not attend school if:**

- They are ill. At present we are not able to give medicines to students as we would normally do unless your child has a long term condition.
- They are showing symptoms of COVID-19.  
Symptoms include:
  - a new continuous cough,
  - a high temperature,
  - or a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell - anosmia
- Someone in their household is showing symptoms of COVID-19. They should be at home, in line with the [guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#).

- They have just returned home from a country that requires you to self isolate for 14 days.
- If in doubt please telephone/email us for support and advice. Please do not come into school. For example, a continuous cough does not mean your child has COVID-19 but if your child attends school and continues to cough we will have to send them home to ensure the safety of others. If it becomes apparent that your child has not self-isolated after a holiday then we will need to send them home. This will cause disruption to other children and staff and additional anxiety. At this stage it is best if we are cautious, we talk on the telephone and decide the best way forward. It may be that a child comes in late once a family is reassured that a cough has gone. As we move forward families and school staff will get better at managing and responding to possible symptoms and we will then be able to minimise disruption to family and school life.
- At the beginning of term we will not be operating the Breakfast Club or 4.30 Club. We plan to reintroduce these clubs as soon as possible but only after we have established new routines for the school day.
- Please do not arrive early. Please make reference to the start and finish times below.
- Please practise social distancing on site.
- Students should arrive at the allocated time. We ask that only one parent/carer enters the school site with their child/ren to minimise the numbers on site.
- We ask that siblings not attending school remain at home unless child care is not possible. If you do need to bring siblings into school please make sure they remain with you.
- A one way system will be in place and we ask that all parents enter the school site via the Uxbridge Road gate and leave through the Nicholls Avenue gate.
- At the beginning and end of each session senior leaders will be available to direct and guide families.
- Please say a quick goodbye to your child and leave the premises as soon as possible. All school gates will be supervised. It is important that we minimise the numbers on site. We are hoping that most children will be happy to come into school. However, if your child does become very upset please take them away from their class group or classroom and a member of staff will come and support you. Unfortunately parents/carers can not enter the school building.
- Please walk to school if possible. It is very important that any car is parked with regard to the law and there is no congestion in the local streets that will cause problems for social distancing. Please park away from the school and walk the last part of your journey if a car is essential.

### **Friday 4th September 2020**

#### **Arrival and dismissal**

Please make sure your child has a raincoat with a hood as they may be waiting to enter the school at the correct time and some of the dismissal points are in the playground.

Year Group	Arrival Time	Dismissal Time
Year 5 and Year 6	8.30 am to 8.50 am	3.20 pm to 3.45 pm If possible we ask parents to collect students between 3.30 pm and 3.45 pm
Year 3 and Year 4	8.30 am to 8.50 am	3.00 pm to 3.20 pm
Our published arrival time for key stage 2 students is 8.50 am. Our published dismissal time is 3.20 pm.		
Year 2 and Year 1	9.00 am to 9.30 am	2.45 pm to 3.00 pm If parents can collect their child by 3.00 pm this would help our dismissal of all children from the school site. However, we are mindful that parents have commitments and teachers will care for your child until 3.15 pm. This is the normal school closing time.
Our published arrival time for key stage 1 students is 9.00 am. Our published dismissal time is 3.15 pm. All students need a packed lunch from home or a packed lunch ordered from our catering company 'The Pantry'.		

I hope this reminder is helpful as you prepare for Friday. A great start today and we are keen to continue tomorrow.

Best wishes,



Ann Bowen-Breslin  
**Principal**