

## HIGHFIELD UPDATE FRIDAY July 10<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This afternoon you will all be receiving your child's school report. In my humble opinion every Highfield child and parent deserves a gold star for coping with the pandemic and all the stresses and strains it has brought into our lives. So here is my gold star to you all.

Next week you will receive a very useful and detailed newsletter from your child's year group staff team. It will be full of information and will explain all the routines for September.

In my newsletter today, I want to reassure you that our plans have been very well considered as we aim to keep everyone safe and happy.



### SEPTEMBER KEY INFORMATION

You can read the full guidance published on 2<sup>nd</sup> July by the DfE.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

### THE SCHOOL DAY

The school gates will open at 8.50 am in the morning and 3.15 pm in the afternoon.

We will have a staggered start and end to the day to reduce the risk of virus transmission.

Reception, Years 1 and 2 - school will start at 9.05 a.m. and finish at 3.20 p.m.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 – school will start at 8.55 a.m. and finish at 3.30 p.m.

- **Only one parent** is allowed to bring their child onto the playground
- Parents must continue to make an appointment should they wish to meet with a teacher or member of the staff team (by email to [admin@highfield.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:admin@highfield.leeds.sch.uk)).
- Parents must not enter the school building. Please ring or email if you wish to speak to the office team.
- The children will line up using the red spots on the playgrounds as guides.
- Your year group newsletter will tell you where to bring your child.
- Teachers will be waiting to receive children in the lines and **we request that parents leave immediately to avoid congestion and crowd forming.**

### THE CLASSES

The children will now be working in class and year group bubbles. They will all have a class teacher and our teaching assistants and higher level teaching assistants will be allocated a class or year group to support children.

We are aiming to avoid contact between groups as much as possible, whilst at the same time fulfilling the practical logistics of running a primary school and supporting children who need to catch up due to lost learning.

In Years 2 to 6 children's desks will face forwards. Year 1 children will have a transition period in the autumn. Reception provision will blend with the Year 1 curriculum. Reception classes will offer the normal areas of provision, with additional cleaning and extra learning space.

Your year group newsletters will explain all the equipment your child will need, as well as information about the curriculum, reading books, lunches, homework and PE days.

## **PREVENTION**

Teaching Staff will adhere to the public health advice published by DfE on 2nd July. Essentially this is:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene (catch it bin it kill it)
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- reducing contacts and minimising distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimising the potential for contamination as far as is reasonable and practical.

The aim is to minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have COVID 19 symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.

The baking room (currently not being used for baking) is the school's quarantine room for any suspected cases of COVID.

## **USE OF THE QUARANTINE ROOM**

Main symptoms (from NHS website)

- High temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back.
- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough it may be worse than usual).
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste (anosmia) – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or that things smell or taste different to normal.

If staff notice a child with any of these symptoms then school office will contact you to take them home. The child will sit in the quarantine room (windows open). Parents will be asked to come to school and take the child home for self-isolation for at least 7 days and arrange to have them tested. Other members of the child's household should self-isolate for 14 days (subject to test results). The bubble continues as normal unless the test is positive. The quarantine room will be thoroughly cleaned after every use.

## **NHS TEST AND TRACE PROCESS.**

It is essential that all members of the school community engage fully with the NHS Test and Trace process.

- Parents must book a test if their child is showing symptoms on the **Testing and Tracing coronavirus website. NHS 119.** <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-an-antigen-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>
- School and parents must provide details of close contacts should the test be positive or if asked by NHS Test and Trace. If the child tests positive they should continue to self-isolate for 7 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school **only** if they do not have symptoms other than a cough or loss of smell and taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. If they still have a high temperature they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of the household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.
- School will contact the local health protection team should someone, who has attended, test positive for COVID-19. The health protection team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact

and they will be asked to self-isolate. Close contact at school means: face to face within one metre or/and skin to skin contact. Proximity contacts – within 1-2 meters for more than 15 minutes. In a class bubble where children do not have to socially distance from each other this will mean the whole class/year group bubble will shut down and children will be asked to self-isolate for 14 days

- Household members (parents, siblings etc) of contacts (children) sent home to self-isolate do not need to self-isolate themselves unless the person self-isolating develops symptoms.
- If there are two or more COVID-19 cases in school within 14 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where COVID-19 is suspected, there may be an outbreak
- The local health protection team will then advise regarding larger numbers of people self-isolating, testing or possibly shutting down whole year groups or, occasionally, the whole school. Where an outbreak is confirmed, a mobile testing unit may be dispatched to the school to support the wider testing.
- Parents will receive notification letters should a case of Covid-19 be confirmed in school.

Extra Cleaning and virus prevention. There is an additional cleaner in school all day who cleans and disinfects key touch areas such as door handles, staircase rails, taps, sanitisers, toilet doors, equipment, toys etc. being used by the children and staff. Bins will be emptied frequently throughout the day.

COVID – 19 hand washing routines continue:

- start of day
- before and after breaks and lunch
- after any other room has been used
- after any outside session
- before they go home

### **LEEDS LOCAL OR BUBBLE LOCKDOWNS**

We have to be prepared for the autumn and winter months as we may well see local and school bubble lockdown periods. Despite all our best efforts, the Coronavirus can appear in any school setting. The Highfield staff are preparing and training for this and aim to be able to immediately react to a school/bubble lockdown. We will send you more information in September.

### **Happy Friday, 250 Seesaw Learners!**

There have been some real highlights with our online learning this week. Reception have done some really great investigations about 3D shape. Investigating which ones roll resulted in some excellent videos! Year 1 have been using a fantastic story about a dragon called Zog. He went to dragon school! The children wrote excellent lists about the skills that the dragon learned. In Year 2, they have been learning about how a child could become a page. Lots of our Year 2 children are the right age to become a page and thought carefully about whether or not they would like to be one. Robots have been the theme in Year 3. The children listened to music and drew what it made them think about. Anushka drew a waterwheel in a farm – it was great! They also created incredibly thoughtful diary entries. Year 4 have been thinking about the environment. The raps and dances they created were amazing! They also made fantastic leaflets which I think should be published immediately! Year 5 wrote excellent stories about an abandoned fairground. I had to make sure I didn't read them before bed – some of them were creepy! Year 6 had a very appropriate task – they had to write a letter to their high school. After reading them, it is incredibly clear how lucky these high schools are to be getting our fantastic Year 6 children!

Special Mentions:

Reception – Rose Scott and Jensen Vaines for a superb effort with all of their work on Seesaw

Year 1 – Mariyam Syed and Azam Abbasi for working really hard with their maths and writing.

Year 2 – Ella Carrie for making a fantastic castle model with a drawbridge and knowing loads of fabulous facts

Tom Chandler for consistently sending great work, including a fantastic animal PowerPoint.

Year 3 – Aarav Jesu for an enthusiastic attitude towards his online learning

Emily Fozard for absolutely fantastic maths work.

Niall Fishburn for showing great perseverance with his maths

Year 4 – Alisha Mohsin for never giving up with her maths, even when it's tricky.

Soham Gaikwad for super work on animal food chains.

Poppy Newby for her beautiful food chain, lovely dance video and all round hard work

Year 5 – Krishita Dash for a brilliant piece of descriptive writing about an abandoned fairground – bursting with adjectives, personification, metaphors and really making the reader want to read on.

Jayanth Anantam for trying his best in absolutely everything and being so polite when he asks questions about his maths.

Year 6 – Lucy Hodge for writing a great book review for the novel of Perijee and Me written by Ross Montgomery. She used lots of detail and images about the book and what she liked about it.

Seth Rudd for completing all of his maths lessons to a high standard each week.

Melissa Currie for writing an amazingly detailed book review for “A pinch of Magic”. Melissa has beautiful hand writing so her presentation is fab

Well done again. You are all incredible!

Julie Colley