

Hartsfield JMI School

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2nd July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

September 2020

Following on from today's Government announcement, I am pleased to report that, subject to any future Government changes, we will have all children back in school from September and their attendance will be compulsory. Please see the following guidance, updated today for parents/carers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Government guidance to schools notes the following essential measures:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- formal consideration of how to reduce contacts and maximise distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

How contacts are reduced will depend on the school's circumstances and will (as much as possible) include:

- grouping children together
- avoiding contact between groups
- arranging classrooms with forward facing desks
- staff maintaining distance from pupils and other staff as much as possible

We will be working on our risk assessments and will refine our current practice based on the guidance but we are hoping for school, as far as the children are concerned, to be as close to normal as we can when we return in September.

A few key points for your information:

- We will operate whole year group 'bubbles'. With shared areas between classes, this is the most practical and will allow all children to be in full time. Teaching and day-to-day activities in the classroom will therefore be relatively unaffected with children working with their classmates and the year group staffing teams. General resources will be shared however we would like all children in KS2 (years 3-6) to have in school their own pencil case with pens and pencils etc and we will allocate a named school pen. In EYFS and KS1 we will supply named stationary for them to use in school.
- We will be teaching a broad and varied curriculum with all subjects covered and will use the first few months, as part of our 'recovery curriculum', to ensure we support children with any identified gaps in their learning.



- We will stagger arrival and pick up times across the school while ensuring children will be in school for the full day e.g. arrival between 8.40-8.50 am for one class in a year group (odd numbers- classes 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 13) and pick up at 3.10pm with arrival between 8.50-9.00 am and pick up at 3.20pm for the other classes (even numbers classes 2,4,6,8,10, 12 and 14). This will reduce the number of parents/carers on site around classroom entrances and the number of children in cloakrooms at any one time
- School dinners will be available from September however there will only be cold packed lunch options with a choice of filled rolls until the October half term. This will minimise use of shared spaces and therefore interaction between bubbles in the first few weeks as children will eat in their classrooms, or outside with their bubble, if the weather allows. Parents will be able to order via the 'school grid' as usual and pay online (KS2). Meals will be priced at £2.70 and parents can, as always, choose to send in their child with a packed lunch.
- We will not be operating any lunchtime or after school clubs in the first half of term until everything has settled down but will keep you informed.
- We are liaising with the Herts Music Service to establish what tuition will go ahead and in what form.
- We are liaising with the Great Group regarding before and after school provision and how that will work from September and Jill Travers will be in contact in the days ahead.

Although I am planning to share as much information as I can before we break up for the summer holidays, I understand there will be a lot to take in and September currently seems a long way off. I will therefore be in contact in the last couple of weeks before the start of the new term to share final arrangements, taking into account the Government advice at the time. I will also share any year group specific arrangements so that you prepare your child/ren as much as possible before the start of a new term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Philippa Smith

Headteacher

