17 July2020

**Year 1 letter on returning to Hexthorpe Primary in September 2020**

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are so looking forward to welcoming your child back to school in September. Your child will start back to school on **Monday 7th September 2020**. As you will be aware, due to Covid-19/Coronavirus, we have had to make lots of changes to how we would normally work. It is important that we all follow these changes so that we can keep your child, you, your family, all of our staff and the wider community as safe as possible during these difficult and unprecedented times.

**Which class will my child be in and what will it look like?**

You have already received the information about which class your child will be in, it was in the envelope with your child’s end of year report. The Year 1 classes are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Silver King | Mrs K Grey |
| Silver Link | Miss L Pearson |
| Silver Fox | Miss Fox |

The children are in classes of no more than 30 children. They will each have a new water bottle (that school has provided), and a clear plastic pencil case containing their own equipment eg pencils, rulers, pens etc. Your child is not allowed to bring any equipment from home.

Each class pod has its own cleaning resources and equipment to be used at various times during the day. All work spaces and items will be cleaned throughout the day, using warm soapy water, which kills the virus.

**Year 1 start to the school day:**

Year 1 children need to arrive on site between **8:45am and 9:00am** at the **Greenfield Lane gates, near the Sports Hall**. Parents will be allowed to walk with their child to the bottom of the classroom ramp, but will need to stop at the markings on the playground and need to walk along the demarcated, one-way route at all times. You will **not** be allowed into the school building, or within 2 meters of any member of staff. School staff will be positioned at key points to ensure to ensure social distancing is followed.

**Year 1 end to the school day**

Pick up times are from the same school entrance as drop off at 3:15pm. You will arrive on site through the gates on **Greenfield Lane**. Once again, you will need to follow the demarcated, one-way route and then socially distance queue so that staff can call your child to be collected.

**Travelling to and from school**

Please follow the Government guidance about public transport, especially if you need to catch a bus. We know most of you walk to school, so this will not be a problem for you. Unfortunately, children will not be able to leave their bikes or scooters on school premises, due to Covid-19 restrictions.

**If I’m late and the gate is closed can I come to the main entrance?**

Yes, if your child is late, they will need to come to the main entrance gate. If there are no school staff at the gate, your child will need to press the buzzer to be admitted onto site. If your child is late they will receive a late mark.

**Does my child have to come back to school?**

Yes, from September, the Government has made school attendance mandatory. This means that **all children are expected to come back to school.** School will chase up any non- attendance as we did before.

**Do I need to let you know if my child is not coming to school?**

Yes, we have to complete registers. You still need to ring or message school if your child is ill and not able to attend. If your child, you or any member of your immediate family displays any symptoms you need to let school know and follow the government guidance.

**Does my child need to wear their school uniform?**

Yes, your child will need to wear their school uniform:

* Plain white/blue polo shirt
* School log sweatshirt or cardigan
* Grey/black trousers
* Grey/black skirt
* Blue check dress for summer
* Sensible black school shoes (no fashion/sportswear).
* No jewellery (one pair stud earrings may be worn if ears are pierced, but must be removed by the child for any PE or sport club)
* No nail varnish

**Will my child need their PE Kit?**

Yes, PE is a part of the school curriculum.

**How will dinner time work?**

Each year group are on a rota for school lunches. Your child will be provided with a school lunch each day. Further information on school lunches will be sent to you in September, before your child returns to school. If your child has any allergies or food intolerances that we do not know about, please let the school office know.

**Will my child still get to play out?**

Yes, but not all children will be playing out at the same time. We have split the playground into 4 zones. Children will go out to play with their class pod and need to stay in their group within the zone that they are playing in at that time. If the weather is nice, we may use the school field, but again this will be on a rota basis.

Any equipment that is used at playtimes will be cleaned after use and ready for the next group. The Trim trail, tyres, stage, and benches, which are all made out of wood, are cordoned off and out of bounds so no-one is allowed to use these.

**Can my child go to the toilet?**

Yes, we have allocated toilets for different class pods to use. The taps, flushes, seats and door handles/locks will be cleaned at different times during the day. Children will need to maintain social distancing going to and leaving the toilet areas. They will be asked to wash their hands before going to the toilet as well as after they have been. We will ask children to use paper towels to ensure that they dry their hands properly. If your child has any issues with toileting that we do not already know about, please let the school office know.

**My child needs medicine - how will they get this?**

If your child is ill, they should not be at school, however, if your child needs medicine you will need to contact the school office so the relevant forms can be completed. At this point the staff in the office will explain what happens next.

**If I need to speak to a member of staff how can I do this?**

You can ring the school office, send a message via parent app or e-mail the school. If you need to speak to a member of staff or your child’s teacher, you can contact the school office who will notify the teacher and then arrange for them to ring you at an agreed time.

A member of our admin, Pastoral Team or Senior Leadership Team could also ring you back - particularly if it is urgent.

**What will learning look like?**

Your child will be taught a broad range of subjects. There will be focus on ‘catch up’ learning as well as the curriculum for the year group that your child is in.

**Will my child get homework?**

Yes, and work will also be shared through the class blog.

**What do I do if anyone in my household, my child OR I have symptoms of Covid-19?**

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can, and should, get a test. Tests can be booked online through the NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website, or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet.

Children must not come into the school if they have symptoms and will be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school - all children can be tested, including children under 5.

You will need to let the school office know the results of your test as soon as you get them.

As ever, if you have any questions or need to talk to us, please contact school:

* Ring us on 01302 852245
* Send a message on Astrea ParentApp
* Email – admin@astreahexthorpe.org

You can also keep up to date with our school and other news, if you have a Twitter account. You can follow us on: @HexthorpePri

On behalf of everyone at Hexthorpe, I would like to wish you a lovely summer- stay safe.

Kindest regards,

N. Parker-Watts

N J Parker-Watts

Principal