



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school – Autumn '21

We are really looking forward to seeing all our children in school tomorrow! We hope you have had a restful summer and are all looking forward to starting back to school.

We thought it would be helpful to re-send the guidance about school routines for this term. Nothing has changed in the guidance we had for September, so we are all ready to start back as planned. Here are all the headlines.

Government guidance and Polehampton routines

- **We will continue to review the guidance** – we all know now that things can change!
- **All children are expected to attend school unless they are unwell or have COVID-19 symptoms.**
- **If anyone is returning to school following a holiday abroad**, please consult the guidance for that country. If you are required to quarantine and can't return to school, please let us know the details of which country and when we should expect you back to school.
- **Anyone with COVID symptoms must not come to school or be in our playground.** Anyone who has symptoms should get a PCR test and self-isolate until you get a result. You may return to school if you have a negative result and if you are well enough. Please let us know by putting "COVID MATTERS" in the subject line of an email.
- **We will continue to send home any child who develops COVID symptoms.** Then please get a PCR test for your child; they should self-isolate until the results come back.
- **We will let you know if we have a positive case in your child's school.** We will contact specific parents if your child is classed as a close contact. You are then advised to get a PCR test for your child but they can come into school whilst waiting for their result.
- We will continue to provide **remote learning** for children who are self-isolating due to COVID reasons, but are well enough to work.
 - Blue Class and Year Three – we will quickly show the children how to use their remote learning platforms, so that's in place should they need to access it at home.

- **We no longer need bubbles!** We will need to re-establish all our typical routines and procedures; for example, only some of our children will have had whole school assemblies inside at their school hall and some of those for less than half a school year! We will carefully explain the new routines, as we would usually do in September anyway.
- We will continue **wearing PE kits on PE days**. This has been very successful for many reasons! Please wear trainers on PE days, rather than leaving trainers in school. (new Blues – you won't need trainers to start with – we will let you know when you do).
- We will continue with our **hand hygiene, ventilation and increased cleaning** measures.
- **Times of the day** - we will no longer have staggered start and finish times.
- **The start of the day** – at both schools, we will open our doors at 8.50am. We will have a soft start, meaning children can arrive at any time between 8.50-9.00am. Doors will open and children can just come in by themselves – no need to line up.
- **The finish of the day** - we have made a slight adjustment to our pre-covid times, due to the fact that both schools will have slightly shorter lunchtimes; we found this was better for the children.
 - Infants – 3.10pm
 - Juniors – 3.20pm
- **All classes will enter and leave** via their classroom door except
 - Orange Class (Yr1)– through the infant hall doors
 - Both Yr2 Classes – doors by the London Road entrance
 - Ade Class (Yr3) - doors between the two Yr3 classes
- **Infants** – we will no longer have set gates to arrive and leave by. Children must be supervised until they go into classes.
- **Juniors** – gates will open at 8.45am. Upper school children are to enter the grounds independently; lower school parents can accompany them to the classes.
- Each school will have an **Outbreak Management Plan** which outlines procedures should the local or national picture change. These will include measures that will have been employing over the last 18months, for example, the re-introduction of bubbles.

We are very much hoping that we can continue to do more together this year. We will share diary dates and future plans in due course.

Happy September, everyone!

Miss Ball – Executive Headteacher
Mrs Medcalf & Mrs Castell – Co-Heads of Junior School
Mrs Scott – Head of Infant School