



**HOLMLEIGH PRIMARY  
SCHOOL  
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**HEADTEACHER: Kevin Ward  
SENIOR ADMIN OFFICER: Jane Poole**

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE START OF SPRING TERM 2022**

04.01.22

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been asked to update our risk assessments in response to rising numbers of Covid cases in recent weeks, and the high possibility of numbers increasing further following the return to school after the holiday period.

Our key aim is to minimise the potential for Covid cases to increase within the school community and limit the spread within families.

In view of this, please take note of the following;

### **START AND FINISH TIMES AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR DROP OFF AND COLLECTION**

Start and finish times are unchanged, but we are concerned to limit the amount of interaction in the playground.

*Please wear a face covering when you drop off or collect your child.*

**On arrival**, please send your child to their line and *leave the playground immediately. Do not stop to mix with other parents.*

**On collection**, please wait until your child's teacher sees you and sends your child to you. *Please do not call your child away from the line*, as this can lead to children leaving without the teacher's knowledge.

For the time being we ask you to leave immediately upon collection. **Do not stop to talk with other parents.**

*Children are not allowed to use the climbing apparatus after school.*

**TESTING** We ask that you maintain a routine of testing within your family in order identify asymptomatic cases of Covid, and therefore prevent such cases being brought into school. Twice a week is recommended.

If anyone in your household has symptoms, please arrange for lateral flow and PCR testing to confirm any diagnosis.

**AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS** After school clubs, including the Care Club and Breakfast Club, will not commence until Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January at the earliest. This is to reduce mixing and allow time to assess the impact on Covid cases of the return to school. Further information will follow nearer that date.

**CLASS BUBBLES** Class bubbles will be maintained for morning and afternoon playtimes. During lunchtime play children will continue to eat in the lunch room and mix in the playground according to a rota, though the playground will be divided in half. This mixing is considered lower risk as it is outside. School assemblies will be held online and children will participate from classrooms for the time being.

**VISITORS TO SCHOOL** Visitors will be kept to a minimum, and asked to wear face coverings at all times inside the building. All parent meetings will be online until further notice. Parents coming to the school office are asked to wear a face covering, and not to wait in the lobby. Only one parent in the lobby at a time. Please form any queue outside.

**TEMPERATURE AND HYGIENE** We will continue to take children's temperatures on entry to school, and will maintain good hand hygiene throughout the day through the use of hand washing and hand sanitiser.

**If children appear unwell during school time we will call parents and ask you to take your child home and administer a Covid test, obtaining a negative result before the child returns to school.**

#### **VENTILATION**

Please send your child to school wearing plenty of layers of warm clothing, as we will be keeping the building well ventilated, and it will be cold. We are using air quality monitors in each classroom.

#### **MANAGING STAFF ABSENCE**

We will do our utmost to keep the school open for all children, However, given that large numbers of adults have been unable to attend work around the country due to Covid, it is possible that we may at some point experience staff absence at a level that would necessitate partial closure. Should this occur, we would aim to offer blended learning (online and work packs) to any children working from home.

Thank you for your consideration during these difficult times. We are sure that Holmleigh children will play their part in ensuring that we provide a high quality of education and social life through the pandemic.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Ward  
Headteacher