



# PARK HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Croydon  
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Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may have listened to the Prime Minister's briefing yesterday, which included plans for all children to return to school.

The government expectation is that **all children return to school full-time on March 8 2021**. Attendance at school is mandatory unless a pupil has a shielding letter as a reason for remote learning to continue. We are all very much looking forward to welcoming all children back to school, full-time, from this date.

The measures we introduced when we returned in September 2020 worked successfully for us at Park Hill Junior School and we managed to keep the school environment safe from pandemic closures. We expect to follow the same routine on return as the government guidance for return has negligible changes for Primary schools. We will still operate year group bubbles and minimise contact between year groups as much as possible. This like before, is to aid our track and trace system.

We have updated our risk assessment to ensure we have included the testing regime for all staff and regular visitors to the school.

As a reminder, this is what we will be doing at Park Hill Junior School -

- **There will be staggered start and finish times as well as different entrances for the Lower Key stage 2 year groups (Years 3 & 4) & the Upper Key stage 2 (Years 5 & 6).** This is to reduce congestion at the gates and spread of the virus.
  - Years 3 and 5 will start at 8.50am and finish at 3.15 pm. Year 3 will use the field gate and Year 5 will use the main pupil entrance gate to enter and leave the school.
  - Years 4 and 6 will start at 9.05 am and finish at 3.30pm. Year 4 will use the field gate and Year 6 will use the main pupil gate to enter and leave the school.
- **It is very important that you wear a face mask whilst at the school gates and maintain 2m distance from others not part of your household.**
- **Parents will not be allowed onto the site and should say goodbye to their children at the gates.** Staff will be on hand to support any children who find this difficult. This system worked very well in the autumn term and enabled us to minimise interactions between children from different year groups and therefore reduce the potential for transmission.



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- Parents are encouraged to make contact with the school **via email and telephone**, as we will continue to minimise contact between adults. If it is necessary to have face to face contact, this can be arranged in a space for social distancing to occur.
- **Uniform** - All children should return to school in their **full school uniform**. Please note that trainers, boots and leggings should not be worn to school. However, because we will still be using the field which is currently quite muddy, we ask that you send children in with an old **pair of trainers** to change into for playtimes. These can be left in school for easy access. The refurbishment has meant that we have new carpets in our classrooms and because some children prefer walking in their socks in their classrooms we would like to keep the carpets clean - thank you for your kind understanding.
- There will be **no PE bags** in school because children can come into school in their PE kit on the days they have PE. Most PE lessons will be outdoors (as advised) so school joggers will be sensible. This is to minimise the number of bags in school. Please ensure your child has the **correct PE kit**.
- **The Curriculum** - For 1 week from the 8th March, we will return to our bespoke **Park Hill Rainbow Recovery Curriculum**, alongside our school curriculum subjects, as we know that we will have to spend some time reorienting our pupils back into the school routine. This was very successful in the autumn term and set the children off to learning through the whole curriculum earlier than expected. Every child will be eased back into our learning expectations, the school rules and routines of school life, whilst acknowledging the difficult experience we have all been through this year.
- There will be **no face to face whole school assemblies, these will be done virtually** and **play times** and **lunch times** will be **staggered**, so that children from different year groups do not interact.
- **Children's resources for learning** - To minimise the risk of transmitting the virus, please remember to supply your child with a **plain, see-through pencil case containing only:**
  - 2 HB pencils
  - 1 whiteboard pen
  - 1 handwriting pen
  - 1 green pen for editing
  - A closed pencil sharpener
  - An eraser
  - A ruler (30cm if possible)
  - A set of colouring pencils
  - 1 Pritt Stick style glue
- **All children must also have a named water bottle** in school every day.

Please ensure all of these items are labelled with your child's name (including each pencil). We politely ask you to stick with a clear plastic pencil case as any others will be returned to you because they detract children from learning effectively.

- Children will bring in a named bag but with no accessories (e.g. key rings) attached.
- Children will be sharing some equipment in school like the mini white boards, for teachers to assess their learning from a safe distance but these will be cleaned regularly. This is permitted within the guidance.



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- There will be regular hand washing and cleaning of tables during the day. Tables will be set in rows with children facing the front according to the guidance.
- Other staff members apart from your child's teacher may be involved in your class' learning, but this is allowed and minimum movement of adults and children is planned, with correct distancing.
- Staff are required to minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible. I am sure you appreciate this will be hard, but understandably staff might have their own anxieties.
- We will phase in external visitors and coaches as per our risk assessment.
- **Our Extended Day provision – before and after school clubs** will resume as per the guidance and according to the latest guidance children can mix whilst they are in the extended day provision. Helen McCarthy, our Extended Day Manager will be in touch with full details before term starts.

Please be assured that everything we do is to keep us all safe and to minimise Covid-19 risks. As a school community, we all have our part to play in keeping our community safe and ask that if your child, or member of the household, is showing any symptoms of Covid19, you keep them at home and let our office know. **Under no circumstances should anyone displaying coronavirus symptoms enter the school site.**

**The main symptoms are**

- a new, continuous cough
- high temperature
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

**This outline is obviously dependent on no changes before March 8 in the government's guidance.**

We are very appreciative of all the support that we have received from parents and carers during this remote learning period. Please look out for our March newsletter next week which highlights some of the fantastic learning that has taken place!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Pratt - Headteacher



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