



PARK HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

Stanhope Road
Croydon
CR0 5NS
Tel: 020 8686 8623
Head Teacher: Mrs A. Pratt
www.phjs.co.uk

Thursday 2nd September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the start of a new school year - 2021/22. I hope you all had a restful break and the children are now refreshed to start a new class.

Towards the end of last school year we sent a letter outlining what we expect to happen in September. I will reiterate this and also add information about changes relating to the Covid-19 government guidance and what we will be doing at Park Hill Junior school in response to this.

All children are expected back in school on **Monday 6th September 2021**.

1. Start and end times/ entry gates

Government guidance: Return to non staggered start and end times. At Park Hill Junior School, we will continue with last school year's start and end times, at least for this autumn term. These are stated below:

- **Y3** - start at 8.50am and finish at 3.15pm. They will use the main pupil gate to enter and leave the school.
- **Y4** - start at 9.05am and finish at 3.30pm. They will use the main pupil gate to enter and leave the school.
- **Y5** - start at 8.50am and finish at 3.15pm. They will use the top car park gate to enter and leave the school.
- **Y6** - start at 9.05am and finish at 3.30pm. They will use the top car park gate to enter and leave the school.

If you have more than one child, with different staggered starts, please drop them all off at 9.00am at their respective gates.

If you give permission for your child to walk home, a form must be collected, completed and handed to the office, or an email can be sent to office@phjs.foliotrust.uk clearly stating your child's full name and class. A new form/permission must be completed for each academic year. **We cannot allow a child to walk home without this permission, even if they had permission last year.**

Attendance

According to government guidance, attendance returns to normal. Attendance codes have been designated to include absences due to isolation periods because of Covid. **Otherwise all children are expected to be in school and promptly start their lessons.** We are expected to send details of absences to the DfE at least for the first term.



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If your child is absent, please inform the school office **by 9:00am, every day of the absence**, by email (office@phjs.foliotrust.uk) or phone (0208 6868623), otherwise your child will be marked unauthorised. **Staff will conduct daily home visits of all absent pupils** whose parents have not contacted the school. All unauthorised absences will be followed up by the Education welfare Officer in charge of attendance.

2. Bubbles and mixing and Covid-19

The guidance for September says we no longer need to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles'). At Park Hill Junior School, children will stay in their year groups at least for the first term and planning for the school day will lean towards maintaining some distance between year groups. Pupils will be made aware of the measures that are in place, e.g. infection control and behaviour expectations to reduce transmission of the virus.

Whole year groups will not need to be isolated and track and trace will no longer be done by the school but the government's test and trace system. The guidance says:

'Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.'

Isolation:

'From 16 August 2021, pupils under the age of 18 are no longer required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive case. Instead, pupils will be advised by NHS Test and Trace to take a PCR test and will only need to isolate if they produce a positive test.'

If anyone in the school develops coronavirus symptoms while at school, they are sat in isolation in the medical room and sent home to begin isolation – the isolation period includes the day the symptoms started and the next 10 full days and advised to arrange a PCR test as soon as possible.

****Please ensure you have three contacts identified for your child to be picked up promptly and in emergency situations.**

Face Coverings:

The guidance says face coverings are no longer mandatory, however, we have made this discretionary for adults and children travelling on public transport will still need to wear face coverings but not necessarily in/around the school.

Covid-19 Outbreaks:

In the event of a school or local outbreak, the school adheres to advice from the director of health and the school's [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Contingency Plan](#) – also known as an outbreak management plan will be implemented if restrictions need to be implemented due to coronavirus.

This may include bringing back face coverings temporarily in communal areas and classrooms for staff, pupils and visitors.

For the full Covid-19 Risk Assessment, [please click on this here](#).

3. Assemblies and lunch times

The guidance says: assemblies can resume, and alternative arrangements to avoid mixing at lunch will not be necessary.



We will resume assemblies starting with Year group assemblies for at least the first half term. Whole school assemblies will continue to be virtual. This will be reviewed in the October half term.

Regarding lunchtimes, we will continue with year group sittings as it worked well and also review at half term.

The school dinner menu for the autumn term can be found [here](#). However, we have been informed that chicken products are in scarcity and meals containing chicken will have to be replaced at least for the first half term. This is a national problem so we will update as we get more information.

Meals must be paid for, in advance, via ParentPay. Debts on your ParentPay account **will not be allowed** and you will be asked to provide your child with a packed lunch until the debt is cleared.

4. Uniform

All children should return to school in their **full school uniform**. Details can be found on our school website: www.phjs.co.uk/parent-info/uniform

Please note that **boots, leggings and trainers should not** be worn to school. **Trainers** can be worn on PE days.

PE bags & Kit

There will be **no PE bags** in school because children will come into school in their PE kit on the days they have PE or have a sports club before or after school. Most PE lessons will be outdoors (as advised) so school joggers will be sensible. This has worked very well for the children and has reduced lost items. Children will be informed of these days from Monday 6th September. Please ensure your child has the **correct PE kit** – details of this can also be found on our website.

Swimming will commence for Years 4 and 6 on the week beginning 13th September. Not all classes in these year groups will be swimming at the same time. Class teachers will inform your child if they are swimming this term.

5. Children's resources for learning & classroom arrangements

Please continue to supply your child with a **plain, see-through pencil case containing only:**

- 2 HB pencils
 - 1 whiteboard pen
 - 1 handwriting pen
 - A closed pencil sharpener
 - An eraser
 - A ruler (30cm if possible)
 - A set of colouring pencils
 - 1 Pritt Stick style glue
 - 1 green editing pen
- 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 small named bag but with no accessories (e.g. key rings) attached.



- Children must have their learning planner and a reading book in school every day.
- Classrooms will still have hand sanitisers for the children to use, however tables will revert to groups and not rows where space allows.
- Children must not bring a mobile phone unless they walk to or from school alone and parents require them to have one. Phones must be handed to their class teacher at the start of the day, and not used on school premises.

6. Park Hill Recovery Curriculum & Learning to Learn week

We recognise that children's learning habits have been affected due to the lockdowns, isolations and school closures and we know that we will have to spend some time reorienting our pupils back into the school routine. Therefore, children will be learning through our bespoke *Park Hill Junior School Recovery Curriculum & Learning to Learn curriculum* for the first two weeks of the term. This has been designed specifically with our school community in mind with an aim to ensure that every child is eased back into the rules and routines of school life, whilst acknowledging the difficult experience we have all been through.

7. **Our Extended Day provision – Breakfast and After School Clubs** will continue. Please book through Helen McCarthy, our Extended Day Manager, via: 07960 610 393 or hmccarthy2.306@phjs.foliotrust.uk.

As a school community, we all have our part to play in keeping our community safe and ask that if your child is showing any symptoms of coronavirus you keep them at home, secure a PCR test and let our office know. **Under no circumstances should anyone displaying coronavirus symptoms enter the school site.**

The school reserves the right to refuse to admit a pupil who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus where their parents are insisting their child attends if, in its reasonable judgement, the pupil poses a risk of infection to other members of the school community.

Parents are encouraged to continue to make contact with the school **via email** (office@phjs.foliotrust.uk) **and telephone**. If it is necessary to have face to face contact, this can be arranged with the office.

I would also like to remind you of our Senior Leadership Team:

Mrs Pratt - Headteacher (HT)

Mrs Cooper - Deputy Headteacher (DHT)

Miss Penn - Assistant Headteacher (AHT)

Miss Waxer - Special Educational Needs & Disability Coordinator (SENDCo)

The Senior Leadership team should be contacted via the office or if confidential, using the email address: phjslts@phjs.foliotrust.uk. This is checked when possible during the day, or you can leave a message with the office in an emergency.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Pratt - Headteacher



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