

Headteacher: Mrs. Wendy D'Arcy

Email: admin@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk

Email: slt@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk

Website: www.hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk



Hardwicke Parochial Primary Academy
Poplar Way
Hardwicke
Gloucester
GL2 4QG

Telephone: 01452 720538

Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted that the Prime Minister has announced that all children will return to school on the 8th March. Therefore, I want to share with you an outline of how we will manage this.

The government have made it very clear in their communication to schools that education is compulsory for ALL children, unless they have received a letter confirming that they are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable. This means that **children must return to school on the 8th March**. Whilst I understand that some parents/carers and even children may feel anxious about returning, I want to reassure you that there is a robust risk assessment in place, and both children and staff are well rehearsed in adhering to the systems of control that are in place.

This includes:

- Regular hand washing/use of hand sanitiser throughout the school day
- Respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- Enhanced cleaning throughout the school day, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces
- Spaces and classrooms are very well ventilated
- Staff have access to lateral flow testing twice per week
- Face coverings by adults are in communal areas (please note, face coverings for children under the age of 11 are not required)
- Where possible, staff do not cross bubbles which makes it easier to identify those if/when required to self-isolate
- Children facing forwards in the classroom from Y2 upwards
- Staggered breaktimes and lunchtime for all children and staff
- Resources are not shared beyond the class 'bubble'
- An 'Isolation' room for any member of the school with COVID symptoms

Therefore, whilst we are unable to completely mitigate the risk of transmission, with controls in place, we can reduce the risk and create an inherently safer environment. If you are concerned, then please do contact us at slt@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk

We need your help however to keep our community safe!

[Book a test](#) if you or your child has symptoms-the main symptoms are:

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

[Self isolate](#) immediately and not come to school if:

- they develop symptoms
- they have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)
- anyone in their household or support or childcare bubble develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

- they are required to do so having [recently travelled from certain other countries](#)
- they have been advised to isolate by NHS test and trace or the PHE local health protection team, which is a legal obligation
- provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with, if they test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace

Organisation

Please ensure that your child wears their **uniform** to school and their **PE kit** on the days that they have allocated for PE (see below). Shoulder length hair needs to be tied back and please avoid extravagant hair accessories and extremely short hair styles including shaved designs and mohicans. School shoes rather than boots or trainers should be worn in line with the school uniform policy. Your child/ren can bring a school bag OR reading bag **but not both** as we are trying to limit items brought in from home. Please ensure your child/ren has a water bottle, lunch box (if they do not have school dinners) and their reading book and record. Reading books will be quarantined in school for 72 hours prior to being redistributed. You may want to add an under layer to your child/ren's uniform as we will ensure that rooms are well ventilated.

PE Days				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y2K	Y1R	YR A	Y2H	Y5H
	Y4W	YRB	Y3MR	Y5P
	Y4C	Y6HJ	Y3W	
	Y4G	Y6W		
	Y1S			

With regards to drop off times, this will remain at 8:40am for Y1-Y6 in order to avoid adults 'gathering' during this period of time. Reception children will be dropped off at 8:50am – **please note this is earlier than previous terms**. Therefore, it is essential that children are ON TIME. The gates that children are dropped off at and collected from **remain unchanged**. Y1 parents, **please do remember to go onto the playground to drop your child/ren off**. However, **please avoid 'gathering' in groups** and leave immediately once you can see your child/ren's classteacher.

Year Group	Drop off & Collection Time	Gate
YRA	8:50	EYFS entrance by the staff car park
YRB	8:50	
Y1S	8:40 & 3:00	Gate 1- please go onto the playground
Y1R	8:40 & 2:55	
Y2K	8:40 & 3:05	Main school gates
Y2H	8:40 & 3:10	
Y3MR	8:40 & 2:55	Gate 3
Y3W	8:40 & 3:00	Gate 3
Y4C	8:40 & 2:55	Gate 4
Y4W	8:40 & 3:05	Gate 4
Y4G	8:40 & 3:00	Gate 4
Y5P	8:40 & 3:00	Gate 2
Y5H	8:40 & 2:55	Gate 2

Y6W	8:40 & 3:10	Gate 2
Y6HJ	8:40 & 3:05	Gate 2

Currently, we have several members of staff that have been identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable. Mrs. Bevan will not be school based but will teach some sessions virtually for her class. In her place, Isabella Martin, who taught YRB during the last lockdown, will be joining us also on the 8th March. Mrs. Ellis will also be working from home and it is anticipated that she will be running interventions remotely with children in school. Miss Rugman is also working from home. She begins her maternity leave on 8th March. I'm sure you will join me to wish her luck with the safe arrival of her baby.

Whilst we will take time to adapt and get into the 'school run' routines, please do be mindful of the speed when driving on Poplar Way as well as where and how you park. It's never easy in the mornings with so many families trying to arrive at school on time – but please do take care.

When the children return on the 8th March, we will focus on settling the children back into the daily routine of the school day, as well as their emotional well-being. Once the children are settled, we will be closely monitoring the standard of the children's learning in reading, mathematics and writing. From this, we will then decide on the curriculum priorities and identify which children require additional support. You will be informed in writing, if your child will receive an intervention. However, as a result of the successful remote learning, we anticipate that the gaps in pupils' learning will be far smaller than in September.

Finally, I would like to reiterate my thanks to all of you for your support – you made it through 'Remote Learning!' I completely empathise with how difficult it is to teach your own child/ren at home but you have been amazing! I hope that with the children back in school fulltime, you are able to use the time to look after your own well-being.

As always, we are here to support you. **Together we are stronger!**

Yours sincerely



Wendy D'Arcy
Headteacher