



High Peak Federation



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Update

Dear Parents,

We hope you are all well.

Below are a few updates for your attention:

Return to school of other year groups

The Government guidance update on Monday allowed for schools to permit other year groups to attend, if there was capacity. Our Y6 bubbles have a smaller number of children, so we have invited Y5 pupils to join them from Monday 22nd June. Y5 was chosen as the children are more able to walk to / from school independently, allowing less pressure if there are siblings still at home and they also have formed good friendships with Y6 pupils over their time at school. We have made adaptations to the classrooms to allow for the extra children do join us and still be in line with guidelines and risk assessments.

Return to school for other year groups

At the moment, the guidance doesn't allow us to invite children from other year groups, as we do not have the space or staffing to do this safely. We do not anticipate any further changes to the guidance before the end of term for this particular respect. We are planning for all the children to return in September, but that is dependent on several changes to the guidance being introduced.

Following social distancing out of school

As some relaxations to the rules have been introduced and also seeing images of rallies of people, queues at non-essential shops, etc. it is all too easy to forget that there are still strict rules about social distancing. Remember, time can be spent outdoors with up to six people, whilst maintaining 2m distancing. If there is only one adult in a household (with/without dependent children), you may form a 'support bubble' with only one other household. It is really important everyone continues to follow this guidance as we increase the number of children in school. Please note, if one person within a bubble does test positive for Covid19, the rest of the bubble then need to self-isolate for 14 days.

School reports

Teachers are preparing school reports ready to go out at the start of July. The reports will be briefer this year, but also give the opportunity for you to let us know how the last few months have been too. The children will be able to let us know their thoughts as well. We will be offering a phone conversation with your child's class teacher towards the end of term. It will explain on page two of the reports how to let us know you would like a phone conversation.



Are there plans for opening in the Summer?

The government have suggested there may be an arrangement of 'clubs' to provide sporting, play or cultural provision. However, there is no detail yet and it is getting close to the Summer for this to be arranged. School will not be opening in the Summer as staff need a deserved break – remember, they have worked through the Easter and Whit school holidays. This is in line with the decision of all the local schools and gets the complete support of DCC and our school governors, who have staff well-being as a priority.

Will children get extra support when they come back to school?

We are aware that there will be a wide difference in the effect the last few months will have had on pupil's learning and well-being. We are planning our usual exciting topics with some flexibility, so we are better able to respond to the needs of the children. We do know that for the children who have returned to school, they are pleased to be alongside friends and are very much enjoying the return to school. We would anticipate this would also be the case when we welcome back all of the children.

The Government have announced plans to fund some extra support for children from September. This appears to be through use of tutors, to help the children whilst at school. As has been the case throughout the last few weeks, we read the headlines and then the details gradually follow. In theory, this could be a welcome provision and we would hope the details are provided before the Summer break, so we can plan sooner for its implementation.

Messages of support

I would like to say a huge thank you for the kind words that have been received - the positive impact on staff morale following such messages is huge. There has been a fantastic collective effort in very stressful circumstances and I am very proud of how our schools have done all they can to provide the best possible support.

Take care and stay safe,

Mr Parry and the High Peak Federation Team

