



High Peak Federation



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Newsletter 14.09.2020

Dear Parent,

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school. It is clear that they have been happy to socialise with friends, reconnect with staff and start to establish a learning routine too. There has been much physical preparation of the school and classrooms for reopening during the Summer Break and I need to thank staff who have put in the extra hours. As I am sure you will also be aware, there has been a great deal of additional work this year to ensure we comply with all the regulations and rules set out in the numerous Covid19 risk assessments too. We are continually reacting to changes in advice as well as tweaking routines to make them work even better.

Please read on for further updates and reminders.





Covid19 – What do we do?

The latest regulations changed at the end of last week. The most significant change being that all those in a household (including siblings) now need to self-isolate if one member of the household is symptomatic. We appreciate that it is difficult to distinguish between Covid19 symptoms and regular coughs, colds and just being unwell. You will be advised to book a test if someone has symptoms and the quickest way to get a result is by visiting a test centre. The best time to book is at 10am or 8pm, as this is when slots are released. At the moment, there is increased pressure on the system and it is likely a Manchester based test centre will be the closest. You can also order home tests online. We have a small number of home test kits at school, but have been advised to pass these on only in exceptional circumstances. The most recent guidance is best explained in the following information posters:







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What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 ...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	...when child's test comes back negative and symptom free for 48 hours
 ...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) • Inform school immediately about test results • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i> 	...when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.
 ...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Household member with symptoms should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	...when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*
 ...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i> 	...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days

* Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste. See more at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 ...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child shouldn't attend school Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too 	...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days
 ...we / my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not take unauthorised leave in term time Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Provide information to school as per attendance policy Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child shouldn't attend school Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days 	...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days
 ...we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child shouldn't attend school Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	...when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again
I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only people with symptoms* need to get a test People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive 	...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met

Reception

The children are settling well into school and making new friends quickly. We will be organising a remote session for parents that will explain how you can work alongside school to further support your child's development and school readiness. Our PTA have asked that you join the group's Facebook page – it is a good source of getting information, advice and support. Many of the staff are members too.

School Crossing Patrol / Parking

Most of you will be aware that Linda retired over the summer from the school crossing down at Doctor's End. This has made things a little tricky while we adjust. We do appreciate all your concerns and are fully aware of your worries. There will be an



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independent assessment this week (probably Wednesday), to see if we would be eligible for another crossing patrol down at Doctor's End. There may be an opportunity to pass on concerns (stepping out between the cars well into the road to check it is clear, range of vehicles that pass, etc...), however, the assessor needs to fully concentrate on recording the information.

As we now have two entrances, with staggered start times, it is also busy up on Aspenshaw Road. Please adhere to the new signs regarding the top entrance and wherever possible, avoid driving up to school. We still have a school crossing patrol at the main gate so the children can cross safely. Please do not park or stop cars outside school at this point, or on the zigzags. An adult will also be at the top gate to collect the children in the morning and watch them across at the end of the day. Please also be aware that non-school traffic may be unaware of how busy it is in the mornings and at the end of the day, so please look carefully before stepping onto roads. We have also witnessed some of our youngest children running down from school to Doctor's End with parents some distance behind – please keep your children with you! We will always keep you informed if we make any further changes.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club started again this week and is working very well. Quite a few adjustments had to be made in order to follow guidelines and keep the children in their 'bubbles' and this has been a great success. We now have limited space, so please ring, text or email each (as soon as possible) to reserve a place for your child. The cost has remained the same at £1.50 per child per day.

Dinner Money

Dinner Money this term is £79.20 which will take you up to October half term. Alternatively, the cost is £2.20 per day or £11.00 per week. Dinner money must be paid in advance. Please pay on the school money system (a reminder of your password can be requested from the office). Alternatively, please pay by cash or cheque (payable to DCC). This needs to be in an envelope with your child's name on. School dinners are currently free for all our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. All children from Year 3 upwards are chargeable. If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals, please give Jane a ring in the office so that she can make some enquiries for you.

Chickens!

The chickens are returning this weekend! Audrey and Eggbert will be arriving along with one of their babies and a friend to make a fab four! The children have not stopped asking about them, so will be excited to see them. They will return to newly renovated housing – thanks to the staff and Gavin Gabbitas for your handiwork.

Secondary School

The application system for transfer to secondary school opens on Monday 14th September. A letter should be arriving home for the Year 6 children with all the details. A leaflet was also sent home with the children on Friday (11th). The closing date is midnight on 31st October 2020.



Flu Immunisations

The flu immunization team will be in school on **Monday 23rd November**. They will be providing the Flu Nasal Spray to every child in school. A letter will be sent out next week with all the instructions on how to give consent for your child - as the registration is now completed online.

Fire Service

The Fire Service will be delivering safety sessions for Year Two and Year Six children this term.

Wider Opportunities Music Tuition

Mersey Class will start ukulele lessons from October for the whole school year.

PAS

PAS will soon be sending out an after-school club letter - reply to them directly if you would like your child to start PAS club.

Term Dates

The term dates for 2020-21 and 2021-22 are on the school website (see Key Information – Term Dates).

PTA

The PTA have generously agreed to fund several new initiatives:

1. We have provided Mersey Class with a new laptop charging trolley and Goyt Class with a class set of new Chrome books. The PTA agreed to pay the additional amount needed to provide six additional Chrome books. The IT technician will set up the chrome books as soon as possible.
2. Sets of Guided Reading books and a top-up of books for children to read as part of the Accelerated Reader programme.
3. A rug and bean bags for the newly created Mersey Class library.
4. Outdoor play equipment, so each bubble can have their own.
5. Funding the myON Reading programme – giving access to online reading materials for the children.
6. Outdoor learning spaces.

1-4 are already in place. Staff will complete training for item 5 this half-term and we will be ordering item 6 this week.

Kind Regards,

Mr Parry and the Thornsett Team

