



Hendal Primary School

Belong, Aspire, Achieve.

Hendal Primary School

Hendal Lane, Kettlethorpe, Wakefield, WF2 7QW

Tel: 01924 259465

Headteacher: Mrs K Ashton

E-mail: Headteacher@hendal.wakefield.sch.uk

Website: www.hendalprimary.org.uk

22nd October 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Coronavirus Update

I am writing to inform you of some actions we are taking in school in response to the rising cases of adults and children testing positive for Covid-19 in the community. We have been closely monitoring case rates in school and we are pleased that we have had only a few isolated cases since the start of term. However, it is important that we take the necessary precautions now to continue to keep our children, staff and community as safe as possible.

Also attached you will see a letter from Wakefield Council and the Director for Public Health which is advising safety measures to be introduced in schools. After careful consideration against our school risk assessment, the following actions will be put in place when we return to school after the half term break on **Monday 1st November**. In response to this letter, the local headteachers have worked together to agree on the following actions:

School Attendance for children and staff

- children and staff should stay at home if they are unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature to avoid spreading infection to others. A PCR test should be booked using the NHS online booking system.
- if children become unwell at school with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature parents will be contacted and children must be collected as soon as possible. Children will be isolated but supervised during this period of time.
- If someone in the household has tested positive for COVID-19 (on LFD or PCR), your child will be advised to stay at home and home / remote learning will be arranged. If they develop symptoms, they should get a PCR test straight away. If they don't have symptoms, they should get a PCR test 3-5 days after their household member started with symptoms (or took their test if they had no symptoms). If this test is negative, the child can return to school but must stay at home and arrange another test if they go on to develop symptoms. School staff will be able to advise you further on this if required.

Whole school events

Class assemblies and whole school events will be postponed until further notice. Myself, school leaders and the governors will continue to monitor Covid-19 rates within the community and resume events as soon as possible. Our Movie Nights can go ahead as our children will be staying in their own classrooms, further details to follow.

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Educational visits

We are going to continue swimming lessons for our Year 5 pupils. The pupils are transported on a private coach with no members of the public and do not interact with any members of the public once they are at the swimming pool.

After careful consideration our Educational Visits will go ahead as planned next half term. Interaction with members of the public is very minimal and the children are transported on a private coach. An additional risk assessment will be in place for these visits which contains additional handwashing measures throughout the day. No new additional visits will be arranged from this point in time.

Safety measures in school

- School staff will wear face coverings in corridors and shared areas in school
- Additional hand washing and hand sanitising will be carried out during the school day
- Parents are being asked to socially distance on the school site and observe the one-way system by entering school on Humley Road by Gates 3 or 4 and leaving by Gate 5 on Kettlethorpe Road.
- EYFS and KS1 Start at 8.45am and KS2 start at 8.50am
- All Classes will finish at 3.15pm, Nursery will finish at 3.30pm
- Children will have playtimes and lunchtimes in consistent bubbles. Hot meals will continue as normal. If cases rise within these bubbles, they will be made smaller into single class bubbles.

As the coronavirus advice is evolving we will respond to any changes from the government immediately. We hope that this communication has provided you with sufficient information to reassure you that we are taking every precaution currently available to us. We will continue to work in collaboration with our local schools to provide a consistent approach to safety measures within our community.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Ashton
Headteacher

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