



The Hill Primary Academy
Tudor Street, Thurnscoe,
Rotherham S63 0DS
Tel: 01709 892145
www.thehillacademy.co.uk
Principal: Emma Cadman

16th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that this letter finds you well. As I am sure that you are aware, the Prime Minister confirmed that we will move to step 4 of the Government road map from Monday 19th July. This will hopefully bring a greater sense of normality for our children and the wider community. So we approach the end of the academic year, I wanted to run through our preparations for a safe return to school for all pupils in September. I want to reassure you that we have made arrangements in school in line with government guidance and will continue to review these throughout the holidays and will notify you via the APP if we need to make any changes. Please ensure that you regularly log into the APP over the holidays so that it remains active.

Our plans are based on the national guidance which can be found on:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/999689/Schools_guidance_Step_4_update_FINAL.pdf

The main principles of the guidance are as follows:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

From September:

- Bubbles will no longer be required in educational settings
- Contact tracing will be taken over by NHS Test and Trace
- Adults and children may still wear a face mask in school if they wish
- One way systems and staggered pick-ups will not be in place in September (more details below)
- **From 16 August 2021**, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as **a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case**.

What to do if a case of COVID is confirmed at home

We ask that you only send your child into school if they are well.

If they have any of the COVID symptoms (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss of taste or smell) then **they must not come into school** and you should arrange for them to be tested with a PCR test as soon as possible. **Children must self-isolate if they test positive for COVID-19.**

From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as **a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.**

Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. They must isolate whilst awaiting the results.

The school will continue to contact parents/carers for your child to be collected if they develop symptoms whilst at school.

School start/finish times

The first day of term is Thursday 2nd September. We have taken the decision to continue with our soft start approach which will run as follows:

- The doors for all year groups will open at **8.45am** and the children will be invited in to complete activities in class and allow them time to settle.
- The doors will close for **all year groups at 9am.**
- School finishes at **3.00pm** for children within Reception and KS1 (year 1 and 2).
- School finishes at **3.05pm** for those in KS2 (years 3, 4, 5, and 6).

School entrances and exits

Start of day

- Reception/KS1 will children enter/exit from their own classroom doors
- Onyx will enter and exit through the yellow door
- Children in KS2 will enter through either the blue or red door

End of day

- Reception/KS1 will children enter/exit from their own classroom doors
- Onyx will enter and exit through the yellow door
- Children year 5 will exit through the green doors at the end of the day
- Year 3 and Amethyst will exit through the red door
- Year 4 and Zircon will exit through the blue door

The external doors will be painted over the holidays so that you will be able to easily find the right coloured door.

Please see the attached school map for more detail.

Uniform

We will be expecting children to return to school in normal uniform. Uniform expectations are as follows:

Nursery – Year 5

- ✓ White Polo shirt/Blouse
- ✓ School Astrea Logo jumper/cardigan
- ✓ Black skirt, Pinafore dress, shorts or trousers
- ✓ Blue and white summer dress
- ✓ White/black/grey socks
- ✓ Plain black shoes (no sports shoes or heels)

Year 6

- ✓ Collared white shirt
- ✓ Blue tie
- ✓ Black blazer with Astrea logo
- ✓ Black trousers or skirt
- ✓ White/black/grey socks
- ✓ Plain black shoes (no sports shoes or heels)

- Children should not dye their hair.
- Children should not have over-elaborate haircuts.
- Children should not wear makeup.
- Children should not wear false nails or nail varnish.
- Children may wear a watch and simple stud earrings but no other jewellery.

Please note that your child will be asked to remove their jewellery if they wear it in school.

PE kit

As of September, the children must bring their PE kit to get changed into in school.

- White shirt and black shorts, pumps or trainers
- A black tracksuit can be worn during colder period

Equipment

Children can bring with them to school the following items only:

- A bag/book bag
- A coat
- A hat/gloves/scarf (in colder weather)
- A mobile phone (if in year 5 and 6 and *walking home by themselves*)
- A drinking bottle
- A lunch box (if required)
- PE kit (when required)

We will continue to keep our detailed risk assessments under review and should any of our arrangements change, we will let you know as soon as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support to the school. We cannot wait to see all of our children back in school on Thursday 1st September. As ever, if you have any questions please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Principal

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