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| **Highworth Combined School** |
| |  | | --- | | Dear all  Thank you for your patience this week whilst we try to do all that’s needed for the planned wider opening of the school on 1st June. With your help, we are nearly there! ‘Pod’ lists, trying to take account of preferences expressed and sibling links, are being finalised today (we still need to phone some parents who have not responded to our request for information ). If you told us that you would like your eligible child to return, we will send you confirmation of days to attend tomorrow. As I said yesterday, we have not been able to accommodate all requests and I am sorry if this means that you will be disappointed with allocated days. In making difficult decisions, we have prioritised children’s friendship groups to ensure that your child is with as many friends as possible.  Having gauged the level of demand from parents with children in Nursery, we are able to offer 2 days attendance for all those who have told us that they would like their child to return. This means that the children will either be in school on Monday and Tuesday, or on Thursday and Friday each week. Confirmation of this follows tomorrow.  This is the final new information about how the school operation has changed, with the promised summary coming tomorrow.          School lunches: we will be able to provide packed lunches to all children whose parents have ordered one through the usual online system. You must do this by Thursday 28th May for the week of 1st June and then by each subsequent Thursday for the following week. We will not be able to provide lunches if they have not been ordered. Free meals are available to all those in Reception and Year 1 and to all those attending school who qualify for benefits related free school meals, but must still be ordered (I know I have mentioned this before, but it really is very important)          Vouchers will be issued to those who qualify for benefits related free school meals for all of the days when the children are not in school. I will write to those concerned nearer to the time of the next issue of vouchers          Every day whilst at school, your children will be washing their hands between 6 and 8 times as a way to reduce risk. We are fortunate enough to have sinks in every classroom and have been able to purchase considerable quantities of hand sanitiser for the rare occasions when soap and water is not to hand. Children will not therefore, need to bring their own hand sanitiser to school and we ask that you do not to send it.          To reduce risk to all involved, we will not be allowing access to the school building to any parents, carers or visitors (unless there is an emergency involving your child). In the event that you need to contact the school please do one of the following:  o   Phone us on 01494 525534. Although there will be more staff in the building from the 1st June, some will continue to work at home in line with Government guidance. We will do our best to answer your calls, but hope you will forgive us if it takes a little longer than usual  o   Email on [office@highworthcombined.co.uk](mailto:office@highworthcombined.co.uk)  o   Use the intercom at the school front door to speak to a member of staff. We will do our best to respond to your enquiry this way, but will not be able to speak face to face. If you need to drop items off, please put them into the yellow box marked out, for staff to collect once you have left the area. Obviously, we hope this won’t be necessary and your help in keeping this situation to a minimum would be appreciated  Phew! You will be pleased to hear that is all the information for now! Have lovely day, despite the forecast rain.  My very best wishes to you all  Clare Pankhania | |