

# Highworth Combined School

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

Dear parents, carers, staff and governors

Welcome back! I hope you have enjoyed the break and feel ready to start the new academic year.

I am pleased to say that the information about school operation sent in July remains current as Government Guidance is largely unchanged. The letter summarising all you need to know is copied below. You can also find information on the schools website

here: [https://www.highworth.bucks.sch.uk/web/letters\\_to\\_parents\\_/503223](https://www.highworth.bucks.sch.uk/web/letters_to_parents_/503223)

Dragana Aldred, Bally Bansel and Alison Kuszynski, all members of our support staff team, have found new and exciting roles outside of education and will not be returning to Highworth this September. Each of them has provided fantastic support to hundreds of children during their time here for which I am incredibly grateful. We all send our very best wishes for successful and happy futures in your new roles, ladies.

In addition to this information, you will also receive today letters from your child's teacher to explain more about what to expect now that they are in a new year group. You will also find an invitation to a virtual 'Meet The Teacher' meeting; we very much hope you will be able to attend.

Finally, confirmation that school starts for all pupils (except for those in Nursery and Reception who have been sent separate information) at 8.45am on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. We can't wait to see you!

Now please get back to enjoying the last few days of the holidays!

Love and best wishes

Clare Pankhania

**Parental agreement for safe return to school of all  
pupils on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2021**

**You must read, understand and agree every point before  
sending your child to school**

The safe opening of school is dependent upon avoiding all contact with anyone who is, or could be, infected with coronavirus. The safety of our whole community is dependent on all of us following these rules. They must be followed:

I will never enter any part of the school site if me or my child has any of the symptoms of Covid 19

**Symptoms of Coronavirus**

- high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- new continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough it may be worse than usual)
- loss or change of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.
  
- If my child has any of these symptoms, regardless of what I think may have caused them, I will ensure that they take a PCR test. I know that my child will be allowed to return to school once they have received a negative result or, if the test is positive, that they have self-isolated for 10 days
- If I am contacted by NHS Test and Trace and informed that my child has been in close contact with a positive case, I will follow their advice and ensure that a PCR test is taken. I will not send my child in to school until a negative test result has been received
- If my child receives a positive PCR test, I will let the school know and ensure that they self-isolate for 10 days from the start of symptoms (or test date if no symptoms)
- I know that if my child develops symptoms of Covid 19 (see above) at school, I will be contacted and asked to collect them immediately. I will take them for a PCR test as soon as possible. I know that my child will be allowed to return to school once they have received a negative result or, if the test is positive, that they have self-isolated for 10 days

In addition, I know that in sending my child to school I am agreeing that everyone in my household will follow every one of these steps. I know that this is essential to ensure the safety of my child, Highworth staff and our community.

- I know that if my child is unable to attend school, I need to email [reception@highworthcombined.co.uk](mailto:reception@highworthcombined.co.uk), giving the following

information: child's name and class; likely length of absence; Reason for absence. Please specify whether this is due to:

- Illness and that this is unrelated to Covid 19
  - Self-isolation due to symptoms of Covid 19, or contact with a positive case
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- I will send my child to school every day with a bottle of water with their name written clearly on it as I know that the school drinking fountains will not be available
  - I will send my child to school with their lunchbox if needed
  - If my child is in Nursery, I will send them to school with a change of clothes in a named bag
  - I will ensure that my child is ready to start lessons by arriving between 8.45am and 8.55am. If my child is late, I know that I will need to take them to the main office entrance to the school and that they will be recorded as having arrived late
  - If my child is in Nursery, I know that I should take them into the cloakroom, help them hang up their coat etc. and then accompany them into the classroom
  - If my child is in Reception, I will wait with them behind the gate to the playground until it opens at 8.40am, when I will walk with them to the classroom door
  - If my child is in Years 1 to 4, I will ensure that they are supervised until the gates to the quadrangle open, when I will say goodbye and allow them to walk independently to their classroom
  - If my child is in Year 5 or 6, I know that they will be able to walk to the door to their classroom at 8.40am when the gate to the playground opens
  - I will collect my child promptly at 3.20pm from the door to the classroom. If I wish my child (years 4 to 6 only) to walk home independently, I will send a letter saying so to their class teacher
  - I will send my child to school in their school uniform, except when they have a PE lesson (please see new Uniform guide)
  - I will send my child to school in their PE kit one day a week, when their class has a PE lesson:
    - Monday: Year 4 and Year 6; Tuesday: Year 3; Wednesday: Year R and Year 1; Thursday: Year 5; Friday: Year 2
  - If my child is having a school packed lunch, I will order it on line before Thursday each week for the following week (for all year groups including Nursery and Reception). I will do this even if my child qualifies for a free school meal.
  - I will not send hand sanitiser to school with my child as I know that they will wash their hands several times during the day
  - I will ensure that I have given my child any required medication and applied sun protection or lotions before they come to school
  - I will not send my child to school with a pencil case as I know that one will be provided by school

Mrs C. Pankhania - Head Teacher