



Huntington Community Primary School,
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September 25th, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will no doubt be aware, the national picture regarding the Covid-19 pandemic is deteriorating, and in many areas additional measures have been put in place in an attempt to stem the tide of rising infections. While not yet such an area, CWAC are determined to avoid becoming one, and Ian Ashworth, the Director of Public Health, has therefore strongly recommended additional measures for schools, which we are implementing **as of Monday, September 28th**.

NEW GUIDANCE:

- **All adults entering the school grounds should wear a face covering (this particularly includes drop-off and pick-up)**
- All staff should wear a face covering at drop-off/pick-up
If anyone is exempt from wearing a face covering for medical reasons, please email me at the head@ address before Monday.

Existing guidance (now specifically recommended by the Director)

- Only one adult should enter the grounds for drop-off/pick-up
- Children to avoid congregating outside school and go directly home
- Parents/carers to arrive & leave promptly at drop-off/pick-up – please do not congregate and do maintain social distancing (as we know that the virus is easily transmitted from person to person)

Symptoms & NHS Test and Trace

I would like to thank everyone for being cautious about the symptoms of Covid-19 - we have had to send very few children home from school with possible symptoms, in part because parents are making that decision for themselves before sending their child in. If your child **does** show the relevant symptoms it is very important that a test is accessed, despite the frustrating delays that are still being experienced. You will know that the *Test and Trace* system is under considerable strain at present, and the government have published a letter for parents stressing the importance of only accessing a test when the circumstances indicate that should be done – please see that letter [HERE](#) (it will also be sent out separately).

Pick-up/drop-off

A small number of queries have been received about the collection of children by adults (e.g. family friends) outside the household or support bubble. As was stated in our guidance of August 28th, ***Pupils can only be dropped off/picked-up (and cared for outside school) by members of their household, or their support bubble (unless it is possible to maintain 2m social distancing between the pupils and adults) – this advice has been recently reiterated by CWAC.***

Given that journeys to/from our school are either walking along a very busy road, where close supervision is necessary, or in a car (within which 2m distancing is impossible), we do not see how the appropriate distancing can be maintained for drop-off/pick-up purposes, and therefore drop-off/pick-up should only be by a single adult from within the household or support bubble. If very particular circumstances mean that,



on specific occasions only, this is not possible, then the Head Teacher should be contacted to discuss the alternatives.

Adventure Play Areas

Please note that these areas are used on specific days by individual year groups and cleaned afterwards, prior to use by the next year group. They are not to be used by children before or after school since that could cause cross-bubble contamination.

Mental Health Programme

We were delighted to welcome Farah from *The Happiness Club* into school this week, to work with the junior children in a series of workshops to help them better understand their emotions and develop resilience through mindfulness and other approaches. Similar work will be carried out with the younger children at an appropriate point.

I hope that, despite the gathering storm of bad news around the Covid-19 crisis, you will be able to enjoy the forecast good weather at the weekend and spend some time with your families.

Kind regards



Mr Rose
Headteacher

