



Arrangements for September 2021 – Covid-19

Monday 19th July

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to provide an update with regard to our return to school in September. As you may know, the Government has produced updated guidance for schools from July 19th 2021. From September 2021 we will be following this guidance and will seek to maintain a cautious approach. We are now completing our comprehensive risk assessments, which will be considered by Trustees and approved prior to the start of the new term. We hope to assure parents that we will continue to do all that is reasonably possible so that it is safe for all children to return to school.

We do not yet know what the Covid-19 picture will look like in September so this letter gives a plan as it stands at the moment. We will send out another letter before term starts to update you if there are any changes to this letter.

Returning to School Arrangements

The following arrangements have been put into place so that we can manage and organise the academy well:

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory for all children and therefore we expect all children to come to school every day. If your child is unable to attend school then please continue to inform the school office. We know that the best way for all children to catch up and make good progress is to be in school everyday.

Uniform

We ask that all children come to school wearing their full school uniform and sensible shoes in line with our uniform policy.

PE Kit

It is important that children wear the appropriate clothing for PE. Rather than getting changed at school we ask that children wear their PE Kit on their specified PE days. They can wear their jumper over their kit to keep them warm and looking smart. Our PE kit is Black or Navy shorts, White T-shirt, Black pumps or trainers. In the colder months please provide your child/ren with Black or Navy jogging bottoms and hoody.

Equipment

We ask that children only bring the items that they really need. This should be

- Packed lunch if needed
- Coat
- Book Bag
- Year 3-6 a small rucksack to enable them to carry their ipad safely between home and school.



Start and End of the day arrangements

These will remain the same as this year in the first instance.

- Nursery and Reception will be dropped off and collected from the front entrance
- Year 2 will be dropped off and collected from the pathway down the left hand side of the building
- Y1, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 will be dropped off and collected from the playground.
- Nursery, Reception Year 1 and Year 2 will start at 9am and finish at 3.30pm
- Year 3 and Year 4 will start at 8.50am and finish at 3.20pm
- Year 5 and Year 6 will start at 8.40 and finish at 3.10pm
- Breakfast Club provision will continue as now with children expected to arrive between 7.30 and 7.45am sitting in their specific bubbles.

Preventing the spread of infection

From September we will continue to:

1. **Ensure good hygiene for everyone.** We will keep our current procedures in place for hand hygiene and hygiene around coughs and sneezes.
 1. **Hand hygiene**
 - Hand gel on entry
 - Very regular handwashing throughout the day with a ready supply of soap and hand towels.
 - Teaching about how to wash hands properly
 - Monitoring by staff
 2. **Respiratory hygiene**
 - Encouraging “Catch it, Kill it, bin it” when a child coughs or sneezes (a supply of tissues will be available at all times)
2. **Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.** We will continue to undertake enhanced cleaning throughout the day in line with Government guidance.
 - Additional cleaning of regularly touched surfaces throughout the day (including desks, door handles, toilets etc.)
 - Enhanced cleaning routines daily
3. **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.** Ventilation is very important and we will continue to promote good ventilation in our academy. We will continue to monitor the air quality in our classrooms and will encourage outdoor learning wherever possible.
4. **Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.** From September, the following will be required:
 1. If a child or member of staff shows any symptoms they will be required to stay at home and seek a PCR test (as now).
 2. If your child has a positive test on Lateral flow device they will need to stay at home and obtain a PCR test (as now).
 3. If your child has a positive PCR test they will need to stay home in line with track and trace guidance as now (currently 10 full days).
 4. If a child is required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area they will not be able to come on site.

Chief Executive: Mr Antony Hughes

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5. If pupils are told to isolate by track and trace (this will be unlikely for under 18s).

If your child or a member of their household tests positive for Covid-19, please contact school to let us know and we can provide further advice.

5. Continue to encourage staff and families to complete Lateral flow tests twice weekly.

We will keep monitoring and reviewing our systems to make sure they are as safe as possible.

Face coverings

In line with the changes to DFE guidance, face coverings will be voluntary. If case rates remain high, we will continue to encourage this in busy, indoor spaces or where groups are in close proximity with people they don't usually spend time with. This will be kept under review as the prevalence of Covid-19 in the community changes.

We are doing everything we can to keep everyone as safe as possible. This plan is subject to change in light of Government advice and safety consultations with Unions and our other partners.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the return to school please contact the academy by email using info@reigate.theharmonytrust.org

Thank you for your continued support and patience. We look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Yours sincerely

Karen Ratcliff
Head of Academy

Chief Executive: Mr Antony Hughes

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