

# Crofton Hammond Infant School

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**Headteacher: Jacky Halton**

**Deputy Headteacher: Julie Syms**

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Update on return to school – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020**

We now have more information from the Government on how to manage our return to school on 1<sup>st</sup> June and I would like to share this with you. I also want to add more details about some of the day to day routines that might be helpful for you to know.

### **Class 'Bubbles'**

We are now no longer able to allow children to mix in more than one 'bubble'. This has implications for our key worker children, and I have tried to contact parents personally who have been affected by this. Children of families needing key worker cover for more than two days will now be in a discreet key worker bubble. They will have the same staff all week.

All children will remain in their class groups for the whole day, including lunch time, with the same lunchtime supervisor, where possible. Unfortunately children will not be able to mix across the cohort but they have been grouped with their friends where possible and will access the outside areas at different times.

### **Cleaning**

Cleaning kits have been made up for all classrooms and school staff will regularly wipe down surfaces, equipment and doors. Additional cleaning hours have been put in place for Wednesdays and Fridays to prepare for the change of 'bubble'. While the school has not been in full use we have made use of the time to deep clean every classroom, including the cleaning of carpets and walls. Regular cleaning of toilet areas will take place throughout the day as well as the emphasis on hand washing. I think it is important for you to know that we have had key worker children in school since the beginning of the lockdown and have had not had a single case of the virus.

We had initially asked that children bring their own water bottle to school. We have realised that we cannot fit enough water bottles into the school dishwasher each evening so would ask that you send in a named, dishwasher proof, plastic cup for your child. This will be kept in school and washed at the end of each day. We are asking that nothing, not even book bags, are brought into school and your children will not be bringing anything out of school (so sadly no enormous junk models for the time being!)

### **First Aid**

Children's inhalers will be kept in their classrooms along with a class first aid kit for cuts and grazes. Only more serious incidents will be treated by an additional member of staff with paediatric first aid training. We have been advised that we do not need to take children's temperatures each day, but we would like to reiterate that you should not send your child into school if they are running a temperature, or are displaying any of the other Covid symptoms. If a member of the 'bubble' begins to show symptoms then we understand that the whole of the bubble will need to self-isolate

until a test has been undertaken. It is now possible for ALL children, including those under the age of 5, to be tested.

### **Drop off and collection**

Both the front and back gates will be open before and after school. We would like to keep both of the main gates open to allow for flow of people so we ask that you do not use the staff car park for drop off. We know that some key worker parents have been making use of the spaces in the car park, but these will now be full and we ask that you park elsewhere, or preferably, walk or scoot to school.

You will see signage directing you towards your waiting space. We are confident that you will all be able to use common sense to keep a 2 metre distance between yourselves and other family groups. We also appreciate that you may be seeing friends for the first time in a while, but respectfully ask that you do not gather together in the school grounds but exit as quickly as possible if you are intending having a catch up.

Depending on how the first few days go we may decide to stagger the start times, but as the classrooms are so well spread out we feel this may not be necessary. Please allow additional time for drop off and be prepared for a bit of a wait – just as you do at the supermarket!

### **Curriculum**

With so many different groups of children either in school or at home, we will not be introducing new learning at this stage. In the first few days that a child is in school we will be checking on their emotional well-being and then letting them find their feet, resume their friendships and have fun! However, we know that children also enjoy a structure to the day and we will try and keep the structure familiar. Any learning that is planned for the children in school will be shared with the children at home along with additional ideas for home learning if you need it. In September we will be teaching a curriculum that has been produced by Hampshire which has cleverly combined the Summer and Autumn curriculums, ensuring that the most important areas of learning are covered.

### **Other information**

- 1<sup>st</sup> June will **no longer** be an in-service day for the children as had been planned previously.
- Children should all wear school uniform, forest school clothes or PE kit to school. After the first week you will be told which of the two days your child is in class will be their PE or forest schools day. On this day they should wear their PE kit or forest school kit to school so that it can be taken home and washed and to avoid the necessity of helping children to get changed in school.
- Year 2 children – we have not forgotten you! We are currently liaising with the Junior School to see how we can ensure that a transition programme is put in place. We would still love to think that you will return to us at some point before the summer but we have to wait for the government to make this decision.

If you have any further questions please email or call school and we will do our best to contact you. Once again, can I thank you for your understanding, patience and kindness during these difficult days.

Best wishes

Jacky Halton