

Houghton Regis

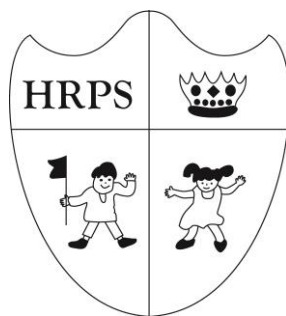
Headteacher: Mr J Edwards BA (Hons) QTS
Deputy Head: Mrs R Parmar BA (Hons) PGCE

Telephone: 01582 867487

Fax: 01582 867487

Email: office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Website: www.houghtonregisprimary.co.uk



Primary School

St Michaels Avenue
Houghton Regis
Dunstable
Beds
LU5 5DH

2nd November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of this extraordinary term! Mrs Mew has already introduced me as your new Executive Headteacher, working with Mrs Hewer and Mrs Bonney. I have spent a few weeks at Houghton Regis Primary and have been impressed by the 'family-feel' of the school and the caring community.

With the announcement of the new lockdown we have reviewed our procedures in school and made a few changes to provision. Our primary aim is to keep children and adults as safe as possible. The notes below reflect the school's risk assessment which can be found on the website.

The current government regulations are that children should be in school, so we will expect your child to attend school unless they are ill or self-isolating.

Procedures for a Positive Covid Case

If a child (or adult) presents with a persistent cough, temperature and or loss of taste or smell, we will call you to collect them as soon as possible. Whilst your child is waiting, they will be placed in the Covid isolation room, supported by a member of staff in PPE. Please ensure we have the most up-to-date contact details for you. We will ask you to organise a Covid test and show us the text/email indicating your child is negative, before we are able to readmit them into school.

If a child tests positive, we have very clear guidelines to follow and decisions are made in consultation with Public Health England. It is probable that the class a child tests positive in will all be sent home to self-isolate. If the child is in a club or afterschool care, other attendees will also be required to self-isolate. To protect the well-being of a child, we will not disclose who tests positive but will follow all guidance given to us.

Swimming

Sadly, we have cancelled all swimming sessions for the rest of this term. Both the transport to and from the pool and the actual swimming sessions do not comply with our risk assessment.

PE clothes

To prevent infection we ask that all children come to school in their PE kits for their PE days. This will start next Monday (9/11) to allow you time to make arrangements. Children will need to be dressed for outdoor PE as we will be limiting indoor PE to floor-based activities with no equipment. All children should wear black tracksuit bottoms or leggings, a green PE t-shirt, black or green sweatshirt and trainers.

Your child's PE days are:

Silver Class – Tuesday

Gold Class – Friday

Orange Class – Monday & Tuesday

Green Class – Monday & Tuesday

Purple Class – Monday & Friday

Yellow Class – Wednesday & Thursday

Blue Class – Tuesday & Wednesday

Red Class – Wednesday & Thursday

Sapphire Class – Thursday & Friday

Emerald Class – Monday & Friday

Amber Class – Tuesday & Friday



Hot Lunches

Over the next few weeks the kitchen will be preparing a hot lunch option each day. More information to follow.

PPE / Masks

Thank you for continuing to wear a mask on school site. Staff are now wearing PPE outside of all class bubbles. Pupils are welcome to also wear PPE if they wish to, outside the class bubble (i.e. not in lessons.)

Limited Access to site

As part of our lockdown restrictions we are not hosting any meetings with visitors, friends or families. If you need to contact a class teacher please, in the first instance, use the class email address. This is the name of your child's class followed by @houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

(For example Amber@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk)

If you need to contact a school leader please call the school office who will arrange a call back from the relevant staff member.

Childcare Clubs

We will continue to offer breakfast and afterschool childcare, but will have to limit our enrichment club offer. We are only able to continue running Street Dance as the numbers are small and children can socially distance. All other clubs are cancelled until the end of term. Peripatetic piano lessons will continue because they are delivered 1:1 and the teacher is able to distance.

Support with feeding your family

Our local Children's Centre is able to offer food parcels and other additional support to any family experiencing hardship. For many families, the lockdown has meant a significant drop in income and the Children's Centre is able to offer support. Either leave a message with the school office or call them directly on 0300 300 8115. If your income has changed, you may also be eligible for Free School Meals, please call the local authority on 0300 300 8306. Not only will you receive free school meals (and possibly a holiday supermarket food voucher) but the school also receive additional money to support your child.

The next few months may prove challenging for many people and we are keen to offer as much support to you as possible. Despite the challenges of keeping children safe, we are confident that school is the best place for them at these times of uncertainty.

Yours sincerely,



Deborah Pargeter MBE
Executive Headteacher