

NORTH HEATH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

ERICA WAY HORSHAM WEST SUSSEX RH12 5XL

Friday 14 May 2021
Newsletter 25

Organisation from Monday 17 May

After reading the latest DfE advice, there will be **no change** to our organisation and risk assessment from Monday 17 May until Monday 21 June at the earliest.

Depending on national and local data, we may start to reintroduce other measures in a manageable, safe and thoughtful way – we will not rush. The last thing any of us need is a local Covid outbreak followed by a local lockdown.

Instead, we have a few reminders:

1. We must still do everything possible to minimise contacts and mixing in school through the use of 'bubbles' and avoiding large gatherings
2. We all still have a duty to engage with NHS Test and Trace protocols
3. Staff will continue to home test twice a week
4. Parents should call the NHS on 119 for advice re: Covid symptoms, no matter how slight you may consider them to be
5. Hot meals will continue to be provided as they are for all infants and those in the juniors entitled to a free school meal
6. School attendance is mandatory and as usual, parent/s/carer/s should plan any holiday around school breaks
7. Face coverings need to be worn on site for pick up and drop off as social distancing cannot be guaranteed
8. Under no circumstance must a parent try to enter a classroom
9. Access to the site during the day will be by agreed appointment only
10. Drop off and pick up is still staggered and there must be no gathering at school gates or anywhere on site

Residential Visits 2021

New guidance for residential providers came out this week and there may be a further update after 21 June, depending on Covid data of course. Providers are currently looking at their own risk assessments to ensure safety. It sensibly includes the need for all children to be kept in their own school bubble. Rest assured that we will take into account the providers' risk assessment, a travel risk assessment and our own risk assessment in planning our Fairthorne and Sayers Croft visits, putting the safety of children first throughout the process. If we are not assured of this, the trips will not happen and a full refund will be given.

Safety

We have observed pre-school children running around the car park and playing on the mound outside Y6 Whitebeam Class whilst their adults are involved in conversation

elsewhere. This really is not safe. Please keep all children with you at the end of the day and leave site as soon as possible.

Class Photographs

All pupils need to attend in full, smart uniform, not PE kit, on Wednesday 26 May for class photographs.

Book Fair

Don't forget that our Scholastic Book Fair is OPEN for orders until the 3 June. Follow this link to shop many great books:

<https://book-parties.scholastic.co.uk/party/north-heaths-summer-book-party>

With every book ordered, North Heath will receive tokens towards FREE books to go into our new library! Please feel free to share this link with your wider family and friends – the more orders received, the more FREE books we will enjoy.

Summer Term Activities

All activities included in the list of dates last week will be thoughtfully managed. Please note that if data doesn't allow gatherings then some events will not be able to happen with an audience, or may be cancelled altogether. We need to ensure safety first, so we will give close thought as to how we can continue to mitigate risks before letting you know how events will operate should they go ahead.

There is strict guidance around social distancing linked to events, seating, performance, drama and singing at the moment, so we will monitor any changes in this closely before we confirm.

Mental Health

For those interested, an enormous amount of support with mental health is available from the DfE through the following link:

<https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/01/mental-health-resources-for-children-parents-carers-and-school-staff/>

Thank you

Finally, a big thank you to everyone for engaging in our parents' evening calls this week and for your continued understanding that all of our staff still work under very different and difficult conditions; remaining in bubbles and communicating with others remotely has its limitations.

We are all here to help, but sometimes things may take longer than previously, so thank you as ever for your continued kindness and patience.

Kind regards

M Gildea

Headteacher

