

# HUNTINGTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

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## Headteacher Update for Parents and Carers 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. We are delighted that we will be open for all our pupils on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March

**The threat of Covid-19 still exists, we cannot be complacent so we have to continue with our preventative and protective measures arrangements to ensure we minimise the threat of spreading the virus whilst delivering a full curriculum for our pupils. We feel certain that school is as safe as we can make it but we need all our families to continue to support us by adhering to the arrangements outlined below for as long as required to keep our community safe- we are not out of lockdown yet! We are not able to change arrangements such as timings at this point in time.**

Therefore, I would like to remind you of the most significant arrangements for parents: in particular, key arrangements for entering and leaving the site for different year groups.

### Start and finish times:

The most up to date government guidance that we states that we still need to stagger entry and exits for our pupils. Children will continue to be in year group bubbles so, in order to facilitate this, we will once again welcome back pupils to school each day at the times outlined in the table below. These timings remain vital to ensure that we **avoid 'mass gatherings'** of parents. Also detailed in the table are home times; these are staggered for exactly the same reason. We appreciate these are different to 'normal' but again are unavoidable for the foreseeable future under current guidelines.

Please be reassured once again that pupils will receive the same amount and quality of teaching and learning time with these altered starting and leaving arrangements.

Please follow the times in the table for dropping off and picking up. If you have siblings in different year groups and you are unable to make alternative arrangements, then children should be dropped off at the latest time and collected at the latest time whenever possible. **Please make sure that only one adult drops off and picks up each day.**

Adults **MUST continue to maintain social distancing from other adults and children** when dropping off or collecting. It is really important that adults hand their children over to staff quickly and leave the school site immediately. If you need a reminder of the drop off and collection arrangements, our staff will be on hand to help with this.

### Year Group/Bubble information. Entering and exiting the school site:

Year Group Bubble	Entry point	Exit point	Arrive at school	Collection/leaving time
Y6	Bike shed gate	Bike shed gate	8.20am	2.30pm
Y4	Front door	Front door	8.20am	2.30pm
Y2	Carpark or field	Carpark or field	8.30am	2.40pm
Y1	Main gate	Main gate	8.30am	2.40pm
Y3	Main gate	Main gate	8.40am	2.50pm
Y5	Main gate	Main gate	8.50am	3.00pm
EYFS	Carpark or field	Carpark or field	Group 1 8.40am Group 2 8.50am	2.50pm 3.00pm

#### Key messages:

- The table provided highlights the 2020/21 pandemic arrangements to the timings of the school day.
- All children will be back on 8<sup>th</sup> March and online provision will only be provided for pupils in exceptional circumstances such as those who are self-isolating or shielding.
- We will continue with the same arrangements for each bubble. Year group bubbles will operate in separate areas of school, each with a designated toilet.
- The bubbles will be kept separate entering and leaving the site.
- Some staff will be able to move between year group bubbles so that all well-being and educational needs can be accommodated, for example Total Sports staff, first aiders, some teaching assistants, but staff **MUST** continue to socially distance from all other adults and children as much as possible.
- These arrangements are unavoidable and must be adhered to.
- Regular handwashing and sanitising will continue as one of the most important protective measures in school.
- Parents will not be able to visit the office in person but should email or phone instead.
- Please note that for the system to work and keep everyone safe, you should arrive no earlier than 2 minutes before your child's/children's designated drop off or pick up time. This is particularly important for children in EYFS to avoid crowding outside these classrooms. Please drop off and pick up at your designated time.

#### Lunchtimes

We have shortened the lunchtime to 50 minutes as the areas available for pupils are restricted. Every child will have time outside with their bubble. **Dolce will be providing a predominantly cold menu (based on sandwich choices) with one hot option. This can be ordered in the usual way via school grid.**

**Bringing items from home: Wherever possible these should be kept to an absolute minimum and be brought in the smallest backpack possible.**

#### 1. School Uniform

Children to wear school uniform as usual.

## 2. PE kit

On the day that your child has PE, (this is the same day as they had PE before schools closed) please ensure that your child wears their PE shorts and top underneath dark jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt, with trainers on their feet, so that there is no requirement to bring a PE bag to school. They should NOT wear their school uniform on PE days.

## 3. Stationery

Please do not send any extra equipment or stationery to school. We will provide fully prepared trays of individual sets of equipment for each child in school as there will be no sharing in any classroom.

## 4. Drinking water

Please could we ask that all children bring their own full drinking bottle with enough water to last for the day with them to school. If more is required during the day, we will provide individual disposable cups for pupils to fill and drink from.

## 5. Coats

Please ensure that your child has a coat in school. The classrooms may continue to be colder for a little while longer as we continue to leave windows and some doors open to increase ventilation- children will be allowed to wear coats inside if they are cold.

## Public Health Reminders

Our updated risk assessment and action plan will be available on the website for your consideration. As part of the processes around this, we are asked to give certain public health reminders to parents in order to keep everyone safe. I am therefore drawing your attention to the following aspects of government guidance in our risk assessment:

1. Contact with individuals who are required to self-isolate is minimised by ensuring they do not attend the school
2. Anybody contacted by NHS Test and Trace or local health protection team and told to self-isolate because they have been a close contact of a positive case, has a legal obligation to do so
3. Pupils, staff and other adults must not come into the school if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• they have one or more <a href="#">coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms</a></li><li>• a member of their household (including someone in their <a href="#">support bubble</a> or <a href="#">childcare bubble</a> if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms</li><li>• they are required to <a href="#">quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area</a></li><li>• they have had a positive test</li></ul>
4. School makes everyone onsite or visiting aware that they must immediately cease to attend and not attend for at least 10 days from the day after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the start of their symptoms</li><li>• the test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (whether this was a <a href="#">Lateral Flow Device (LFD) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test</a>)</li></ul>
5. Where parents are using external childcare providers or out of school extra-curricular activities for their children, you should also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• advise them to limit their use of multiple out-of-school settings providers, and to only use one out-of-school setting in addition to school as far as possible.</li><li>• encourage them to check providers have put in place their own protective measures</li></ul>

• send them the link to the guidance for parents and carers [LINK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak)  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

## Lateral Flow Tests

Finally, I would like to remind you that while there is no compulsion, the Government has offered free lateral flow tests to all families and households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles. They will be able to test themselves twice every week from home as schools return from 8<sup>th</sup> March. Tests can easily be ordered and collected from local sites, or administered through workplace testing programmes. Please follow the link below for further information:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-households-with-children-of-school-aged-to-get-rapid-covid-19-tests-per-person-per-week?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=813f5236-80a6-4440-bd45-db9f6692837d&utm\\_content=immediately](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-households-with-children-of-school-aged-to-get-rapid-covid-19-tests-per-person-per-week?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=813f5236-80a6-4440-bd45-db9f6692837d&utm_content=immediately)

Thank you for your continued support during these unprecedented times.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

*KBailey*

Mrs K Bailey