



Dear parents and carers,

I hope you and your children have had a wonderful Summer Break.

The government has outlined that, 'As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now an imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education'. Devon is currently an 'Enhanced Response Area' due to the increase in COVID-19 cases over the Summer period. Ensuring the safety of all staff, pupils and visitors to the school is paramount as we move back towards a more normal running of the school. Therefore, ahead of the children's return to school on **Wednesday 8th September**, I am writing to you to outline the arrangements and procedures that will remain in place. All arrangements in place will be reviewed regularly and are in line with both National and local guidance.

Attendance with regards to COVID-19

Asides from the exceptions below, attendance to school is mandatory for all children. Public Health England and the Government's Chief Medical & Scientific Officers agree that there is a very low risk and rate of severe illness in children from COVID-19. The benefit of attending school continues to significantly outweigh the COVID-19 health risk to children. If you have concerns, please discuss these with us at school so that your child is able to continue attending school.

Under the following circumstances, children **should not** attend school:

- If your child shows symptoms of COVID-19. Symptoms include; a new and continuous cough, a high temperature and change to sense of taste or smell. More information can be found here: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms in children - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus-symptoms-in-children/). If they display any of these symptoms, they must stay at home and self-isolate.
- If your child has tested positive for a lateral flow test.
- If your child has tested positive for a PCR test.

Maintaining a safe school environment

To ensure that school is a safe environment for all, the following arrangements will **remain in place**.

- Regular handwashing and sanitising. Good hygiene is of upmost importance to stop the spread of disease (not just Coronavirus).
- 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' routine and mantra.
- Ventilation of shared spaces.
- Twice weekly staff testing using lateral flow test. All parents also have access to these and we'd encourage regular testing of the household to keep everyone safe. Tests can be ordered for free on the link below.
[Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)
- Staff will continue to wear face coverings in communal areas, including when greeting children from the playground.
- Children's interaction between year groups and Key Stages will be minimised where possible and where deemed to not be of importance to their development and education.
- A request for parents and carers to wear a face covering when on site (including outdoor areas).
- Remote Learning will be offered for those who have to remain at home due to self-isolation reasons (and are who are well enough to access it).

Drop off and collection times

There is no longer a need for staggered drop off and collection times. Instead a 10minute window between 08:30am and 08:40am will be used to naturally stagger the arrival of children. Gates will close at 08:45. Any children attending after 08:45 will be marked as late.

Children in Pre-School: Pre-school children should be taken across the KS1 playground and up to the Pre-School gate which backs onto the orchard area. A parent or carer must remain with them until they are welcomed into pre-school by pre-school staff.

Children in KS1: should be taken to the KS1 playground where a parent or carer must remain with them until they are welcomed into their classroom by their class teacher at 08:40. They will be welcomed in via the classroom gates which open onto the playground.

Children in KS2: should be taken to the KS2 playground where they will be supervised by school staff until they are asked to line up at 08:40.

Members of the school leadership will be on the front school gate to ensure you are able to get to where you need to go so please do not worry if you are unsure. Just arrive between 08:30 and 08:40 and we will be able to direct you.

School Uniform

Children are expected to attend school in full school uniform each day. Information on school uniform can be found here: [School Uniform | Redhills Primary School | Exeter](#)

On days where children have PE, they will still need to attend school in school uniform and bring in their PE kit to get changed into.

If you have any questions regarding any of the information above, please contact the school office from Monday where we will be able to help.

Other updates

PE

Following the great success last year, for the Autumn term PE will continue to be delivered by Premier Education. Children will have at least 1 hour of PE delivered by Premier Sport, followed up by 1 hour of PE delivered by their class teacher. This will resume WB 13th September 2021 and a letter with a timetable of when classes have PE will be released prior to this.

Wrap Around Care Provision

Our Breakfast Club service will continue to run.

We are working with a number of outside suppliers to establish a long term solution to wrap around care for children who need to remain at school after 3pm. We understand that this is a provision that is important to many parents and carers and therefore want to ensure we have such that is of high quality and which offers consistent afterschool care every day until 5.30pm. We thank your patience as we work to establish this.

School Office, Pastoral Team and Teaching Staff

We always welcome communication between home and school. However, at present we cannot communicate face to face with parents. Therefore, if you have any questions or concerns, or would like to speak to a member of staff we can accommodate this via email or telephone. We thank you for your understanding.

Support for children

While we know many children will be excited for their return to school, we anticipate there will be those who are apprehensive or will find this return challenging. Therefore, support for pupils will continue to be in place. This includes; clear and familiar school routines (which will be gently taught to children over the first few days and frequently revisited), opportunities to talk and share thoughts and reflections within class and/or with our pastoral team as required and a continued focus on including outdoor and physical learning within the children's curriculum diet.

I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Wednesday 8th September** and to meeting you all over the coming weeks. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office should you have any further questions.

Kind Regards,

Mr L Williams
Headteacher
Redhills Primary School