

21st June 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope that you, and your families, remain well. As lockdown continues, even with some things easing, I think it is fair to say this has been and continues to be very challenging times.

It has been reassuring speaking to so many parents and carers, hearing how well you are supporting your children. I continue to be impressed by our pupils’ resilience.

We have spent the past few weeks speaking to families and arranging a timetable that fits with the Government Health and Safety guideline. We are sending out a copy of your child’s timetable, what days they will be attending school and who is in their class group for the initial return to school*.*

We have tried to maximise the amount of time pupils will be in school through the timetable. We are also aware pupils will not have been in Hollybrook for a long time and will need support and reassurance with the transition back. In line with Government recommendations, pupils will be in smaller groups and have fewer teachers. Instead of pupils moving from class to class, the teacher will move unless it for outdoor learning or PE.

The main focus when pupils return will be:

* Literacy
* Numeracy
* Health and Well-being
* Outdoor learning
* Digital technology

We hope to have a fuller timetable in place very quickly, but our priority initially is welcoming the pupils back and safely. We will be providing additional learning and support for families for the days pupils are not in school. The iPads are a great resource, but I know many families have found accessing them difficult so we intend to offer support for families and children as part of our back to school programme in August.

I can now confirm that Group 1 pupils will start school on Wednesday 12thAugust. They will then start their ‘normal pattern’ *of Monday’s and Tuesdays in school*from Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th August.

Group 2 pupils *will start their pattern of Thursdays and Fridays in school*on Thursday 13th August and also attend on Friday 14th August, starting their ‘normal pattern’ of attendance.

Transport is still to be confirmed. We will continue to share information as soon as it becomes available.

Free school meals will still be available to all pupils who are eligible. If your child is not registered for free school meals – and you meet the criteria – please register as soon as possible. If you need support with this, please contact the school office. During this time, the Fuel Zone will only provide lunches for those getting a free lunch. Pupil are asked to bring their own packed lunch. Free breakfast will hopefully still be available.

Please remember that this is a short term, interim measure and pupils will return to their normal classes and classmates as soon as Government advice allows.  We are already working with teachers and support staff to ensure that we provide support for all pupils as they return to school in August.  Health and Wellbeing of staff and pupils will always be of paramount importance during these challenging times.

Please feel free to call or email to discuss any aspect of the return to school or questions you may have.

We very much look forward to opening Hollybrook’s doors again and seeing our pupils. I know parents and carers are concerned about the amount of time pupils have missed, but please be assured as teachers and support for learning workers, we will work hard to ensure every child is supported to renegade with their learning and get them back on track to achieving success .

Please stay safe and enjoy the summer.

Warm wishes

Jackie Newell and Allison MacLeod

Head Teachers