

PORTISHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning and achieving together

3rd September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a very enjoyable summer break and are as excited to be coming back to school as we are.

As you prepare for the school reopening on Monday we wanted to confirm with you all of the information you will need to be ready for the start of the new school day.

A very warm welcome to the families of the children in Reception. We have enjoyed seeing you visit for your induction sessions over the last 2 days and can't wait to see your children arriving in their school uniforms for the first time. We will be able to offer you support and answer any questions in your online meetings.

Covid Arrangements

There has been much in the media about Covid guidance and the return to school. We are really pleased that the success of the vaccination programme has delivered significant positive changes to school arrangements meaning an almost complete return to pre-covid school routines with some minor changes.

In summary, from the beginning of term:

- Children, staff and visitors will continue to maintain excellent hand hygiene including hand sanitizing on entry to the building, at lunchtimes, playtimes etc.
- Enhanced cleaning of toilets, and the school building during the school day.
- The school building and classrooms will continue to be well ventilated

Almost all other areas of school life will return to normal with no class or year group bubbles – you can find our full risk assessment on the school website under the 'September 2021 Reopening' page of the 'Parent Zone' tab. Please find below a link to this page:-

[Link to risk assessment](#)

As well as the changes we shared in the July letter (please see link below) we will begin the school year with assemblies continuing to be delivered by Teams during Term 1 before we bring the whole school together in one room.

[Link to July end of term letter](#)

We have prepared a “Frequently Asked Questions” sheet to help you understand the changes to the guidance around developing symptoms, confirmed cases, PCR testing and when to isolate. Please keep this handy and make sure you have a good read.

Site Security

We have added an additional locked gate to the site and after drop off and pick up our front gates will now be closed. Visitors will need to go to the side gate to be “buzzed in”. The gate is accessed from the car park entrance pathway and is close to the entrance to the school hall.

Other News

Much work has been completed to update the school site with new carpets in KS2 and the outdoor area is undergoing a makeover.

Monday will see the start of our new school dinner procedures using Aspens SELECT. If you wish your child to have a school meal you must have registered with SELECT so that you can pre-order your child’s lunch. If you have not registered and booked a meal in advance you will need to send your child in to school with a packed lunch. If you have any queries please refer to the previous communication with instructions on how to register with SELECT and book a meal. If you have any queries you can contact the school office or Aspens directly. Please note that Reception parents will receive their registration instructions and codes for SELECT next week.

Children will continue to come to school in PE kit on their PE days. Next week there is a small change with Year 6 having PE on Monday (first day back) and Year 3 having PE on Wednesday.

Communication

Parents can continue to access the year group emails to contact teachers but should telephone the office if a message is urgent and relates to being picked up.

We will be welcoming volunteers back into school in due course and will be emailing the school community when we have established our routines and the staff and children are confident with the new expectations.

Walking Home in KS2

If you wish your child to walk home independently please complete the form in the link below so we can update our class teachers ready for the end of day on Monday 6th of September.

[Link to permission to walk home survey](#)

Our school value for Term 1 is “Hope”. As we make the final preparations for Monday we look forward to all of the exciting opportunities a new school year brings and making new memories.

Diary Dates

Monday 6th September -First day of term
Wednesday 8th September -Y6 Mojo Active Trip
-Y4 WOW Day “USA Theme”
-Anning Forest School
Friday 17th September -Y6 WOW Day “Victorians”
Wednesday 29th September to Friday 1st October -Barton Camp
18th and 23rd November -Parents’ Evenings

Yours faithfully,

Richard Riordan
Headteacher
Portishead Primary School