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**Headteacher: Mr G Morrison**

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**Website:** [**www.holycroftprimary.org.uk**](http://www.holycroftprimary.org.uk)

September 3rd 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to update you on the measures that we are putting in place to ensure the children’s safe return to school. School is vital for children’s education and wellbeing. The risk of the children becoming seriously ill from coronavirus is very low, and there are negative impacts on children’s health of being out of school.

**The actions we are taking include:**

**Cleaning**

We will have an enhanced cleaning rota. As well as a thorough clean at the end of each day, we will have cleaners on site to clean at specific times during the day. We will also continue to close at lunchtime on Friday, to allow a deep clean to take place through school.

**Hygiene**

Good hygiene will be reinforced regularly with staff, pupils and visitors. There will be lessons focused on this at the beginning of the term. There will posters and regular reminders given to staff and pupils throughout their time at school.

**Classrooms**

Most classrooms, except those of the youngest children, will be organised with desks facing forward, and pupils sat side by side rather than facing each other. We will ensure there is good ventilation in the classroom by keeping windows open (when the weather or temperature allows us to) or by keeping doors open. Doors will close automatically if there is a fire alarm. Children’s comfort and wellbeing will always be prioritised.

Pupils will be provided with their own set of daily equipment such as pens and pencils. There will be a cleaning station for shared resources in each classroom, so equipment can be cleaned at the end of the day. Equipment will not be shared between groups unless it has been cleaned. All other equipment will be kept in cupboards, and classroom surfaces kept clear.

**Corridors, toilets and other facilities**

Corridors have been organised into lanes, or a one-way system when the corridor narrows. Toilets will only be used by children from the same phase of school. There will be additional cleaning of toilets during the day. Other shared facilities such as the ICT suite and hall, if used, will be cleaned after use by each group.







 

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**Illness and outbreaks**

We will follow the clear guidance from PHE regarding testing and self-isolation for children, family members and staff. This will be clearly communicated to everyone.

If we have a positive case in school we will be contacted by Public Health England and will follow their instructions. This could (but not always) require the closing of classes, part of school or in exceptional circumstances the whole school.

I will be providing further information on what will happen if a child has symptoms soon.

**Children’s mental health and wellbeing**

For most children the routine and structure of the school day will be important to help them return. However, teachers are very mindful that some children returning may find this more difficult than others. We will support any children and their families where this is the case. Wellbeing is already an important part of our curriculum, and will continue to be so.

Further information on the safe reopening of school can be found on the Department of Education Website. Please follow the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

If you have any specific questions regarding your child please contact your class teacher via Class Dojo, or fill in our contact form on the school website.

Yours faithfully

Mr Morrison