



Headteacher: Adrian Bates-Holland

# Hassocks Infant School

Chancellors Park, Hassocks  
West Sussex BN6 8EY  
Tel No. 01273 842549  
Fax No. 01273 846793

[head@hassocksis.com](mailto:head@hassocksis.com)  
[office@hassocksis.com](mailto:office@hassocksis.com)  
[www.hassocks.w-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.hassocks.w-sussex.sch.uk)

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that this letter finds you well and that you have all enjoyed the summer holiday.

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September we will be welcoming back our Year 1 and 2 families and our Reception children will be starting their phased transition. The staff team here at the school have been busy organising classrooms to ensure that our school is ready for the children's return. We are all very much looking forward to seeing all of you - it has been a long time for many families and we cannot wait to see all of the children back in school.

We have worked closely to follow the Department for Education Guidance to ensure a safe return to school. If you have not already done so, please view the information video on our school website which explains the procedures in place to support your child's return to school: <https://www.hassocksis.com/https://youtube/fveqftvjb8y>. This presentation is long, so do pour yourself a cup of tea - or something stronger, before sitting down to watch this! We have also posted a copy of our most recent risk assessment on the school website.

In addition to this video, here is some key information for all parents to ensure that the return to school runs smoothly:

## Attendance at School

Attendance at school is now compulsory and we will follow our attendance arrangements. However, we do recognise that some families may have concerns about returning to school. We do not intend to fine families for non-attendance and do ask these families to contact us so that we can answer any questions to support the return to school.

## Covid-19 Symptoms



You will all be familiar with the symptoms of coronavirus by now. If your child or a household member are experiencing any of the above symptoms, they should not attend school. The individual experiencing symptoms should organise a test on the [NHS website](https://www.nhs.uk)

\* Explore \* Respect \* Flourish

and follow government advice [on self-isolation](#). If the individual has a negative test result, your child can return to school. We do ask all families to email the test result to the school office *before* returning to school.

If there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in our school, we will contact Public Health England to complete a risk assessment and will be guided by their advice. This is likely to result in the closure of an individual class or year group bubble and we will contact all affected families.

### **Quarantine**

Some families may have been affected by the quarantine arrangements following holidays to a restricted country. Families who are self-isolating for 14 days should not attend school. If you are currently in quarantine, please contact the school so that we can contact you to discuss support for your child.

### **Drop Off and Collection Arrangements**

We are asking all families to ensure that they arrive on time for their scheduled drop-off and collection time. Our staggered times are tight, but with your help we are hoping to reduce congestion outside the school. We are asking all families to follow these guidelines at drop-off and collection time:

- Please stick to the one-way system marked on the tarmac at all times.
- To ensure a smooth flow throughout the school site, do keep any conversations with teachers to a minimum. If you wish to pass on a message to the class teacher, do email the school office and we will ensure that this is passed on.
- Unfortunately, bikes and scooters cannot be stored at the school. Do avoid bringing these, wherever possible.
- We expect all families to follow social distancing guidelines whilst on the school premises. Do ensure that you remain 2 metres away from other families.
- We are asking all parents to avoid congregating outside the school gates to avoid congestion outside the school.

We know that some children will naturally be anxious or upset at drop-off times. Our staff do need to maintain a 2-metre distance from parents at drop off and collection times, however we do have a designated space outside each classroom so that parents can step aside and reassure their child.

### **Families With Siblings**

We are aware that for many families drop off and collection times may be a significant challenge, particularly if you have older children at Windmills Junior School. We know that it is impossible to be in two places at the same time! We have worked closely with Windmills Junior School and both schools have agreed some flexibility on drop-off times for these families. We are asking families to drop off the child with the earliest start time first.

We are offering families the option to drop off and collect all children with their youngest sibling. We would prefer all children to be in school for the full day. However, if you wish to do this, please contact the school office so that we can let class teachers know.

### **Sending Equipment Into School**

Under DfE guidance, we do need to restrict the number of items coming in and out of school. We are asking all families to ensure that their child brings a book bag into school

and to avoid sending in large backpacks. Children will need the following equipment in their book bag:

- A named water bottle
- A named sun hat on sunny days
- A change of underwear, only if needed by your child
- A lunch box if your child does not have hot school meals

We will be sending home reading books in the coming weeks and class teachers will let you know arrangements for changing books. Unfortunately, we are unable to send home children's work or models that they have created during the school day.

To avoid the need to send home PE kits to be washed regularly, we are asking all children to wear their PE kits to school on PE days. Class teachers will contact you to let you know the days of PE lessons. As we are now entering the Autumn term and the weather is likely to be colder, children can wear plain jogging bottoms, suitable trainers and their school t-shirt and jumper on PE days.

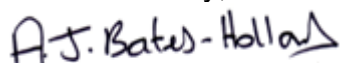
### **School Events and Communication with Parents**

We will shortly be sharing key dates for the term ahead with all families. We are planning to run all school events, although these will take place online as sadly we are not able to invite parents into the school building at this stage. We are committed to maintaining strong links with all of our families and will provide additional information for these school events.

As class teachers are now teaching full-time, we are temporarily suspending class email accounts. However, please contact the school office if you need to pass on a message to your child's class teacher. Teachers may not be able to reply immediately, as their priority is supporting the children in school however we will ensure that somebody calls or emails, if needed.

Thank you all for all of your support during a very challenging time.

Yours sincerely,



Adrian Bates-Holland  
Headteacher