



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Friday 4th September 2020

Dear Parents,

The last few days have flown by and we are so looking forward starting our first full week on Monday. Next week, we will also welcome our youngest members of the school community as our Nursery and Reception pupils will begin to return. As each new day passes, our routines are becoming smoother and more embedded and I am extremely grateful for all your support and patience as we get used to our new ways of working. This letter is to provide a few important pieces of information and an outline of how we are expecting to run our 'Wigglebugs' breakfast and after school clubs which will commence from Monday 7th September 2020.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Parking and safety

Our drop off and collection arrangements are working well and it was lovely to see a real improvement with how smoothly our one-way systems are working within the grounds. One-way systems are advised by the government and we do have to have a consistent approach to this so thank you to all parents for complying with our current system.

As we are now using the top field gate as our exit in the afternoons, it has become particularly congested with vehicles in that area particularly at the 3.25pm collection time. As the path along the field is now being used regularly by children, I would like to ask that parents pay particular attention to this and ensure that they **park with enough space for children and families to walk along safely** and to travel at a reduced speed in this area. Although the path is not owned or maintained by us, we are requesting that Cumbria County Council tend to any overgrown verges to make it slightly more passable and hope to see an improvement soon.

It is important to note that, with the staggered arrangements, the number of vehicles are reduced and **I would encourage parents to park considerably in other areas as well so as we can ensure that congestion in one area doesn't become a safety issue**. Whilst I know parking further from the gate may mean a slightly longer walk, I am conscious that we all need to work together at such a difficult time.

Wellies!

We have been out on the field in all weathers and, even when dry, areas of the field can become muddy. **The children are welcome to bring in a change of footwear, ideally wellies**, as all guidance states we should maximise use of the outdoors and this also allows us to keep bubbles separate at playtimes. We are in the process of purchasing some wellington boot racks to store the wellies outside so please only send boots that you are happy to get dirty and that can be stored in the outdoor areas.

Face coverings – update

We have begun using clear face shields in the lunch hall when serving our school dinners and the children appear comfortable with staff wearing these as an added protective measure. As of next week, we may utilise the clear face shields in some other activities dependent on the situation and need. For example, some staff may use these in the classroom if they need to assist a child from a closer distance and we will continue to use face masks for first aid.

WIGGLEBUGS BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

As a school, we appreciate the importance of our wraparound care for enabling families to access work and so we will be reopening this as of Monday 7th September 2020. We have looked carefully at how we can maintain our current protective measures and, as a result, we will be operating at a reduced capacity. There will be number limits on the provision but there will also be limits to the number of individual children from each bubble as year groups will still not be able to mix during this time.

Both Breakfast and After School Club will take place in the hall although the outdoor areas will also be used as much as possible. The bubbles will be clearly separated within the hall and we will be using desks to give the children clearly defined areas so as the groups do not mix. As a result, the types of activities we will provide will have to be more limited than normal and will need to be things that can be done at desks and within year group bubbles.

If you wish to utilise the provision please ensure the following:

- **When dropping in the morning (between 7.45 and 8.15am), please drop at the car park gate but wait to ensure your child has entered the school building through the hall door before leaving**
- **When collecting (before 5.30pm), please sanitise your hands using the sanitiser dispenser located on the edge of the fencing near the shed by the hall door, then press the doorbell on the hall door. Once pressed, please step back behind the yellow line and your child will be sent out to you. There is no need to sign on collection at the moment.**
- **Please ensure we are notified of any changes to your requirements with at least 24 hours' notice due to closely monitored numbers and staffing. You may still be charged for cancelled sessions with less than 24 hours' notice.**
- **If you wish to make a booking, please understand that we may not have space due to our new limits. If this is the case, we will operate a waiting list and will notify you if a place becomes available.**

Whilst we are getting used to arrangements, we will NOT be able to accept any new bookings during the coming week (commencing 7th September) as we have a carefully designated plan based on exact current numbers. Please let us know as early as possible if you do have any upcoming requirements to give us time to check numbers and arrange staffing.

We can confirm that any bookings that have already been made and acknowledged by school can now go ahead. There is no need to contact the school if you have already made a booking.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey