

Huish Episcopi Primary School

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Dear parents and carers

I am writing to you with arrangements for the full school opening on Monday, 8 March 2021.

It is with great pleasure that we will be welcoming all pupils back in to school on this date. The government has asked all Headteachers to state that full attendance is expected by all pupils in all year groups from this date; of this I am sure you are already aware. We will be returning to an almost identical routine to that which was planned for January - please see below.

Drop off and collection times

Children should be dropped off at the following times. Please avoid arriving too early or too late as this makes social distancing challenging in our car park and on our site. Siblings should be dropped off during the period for the youngest child and should be collected during the slot for the oldest child. Kingsmoor should use the Kingsmoor front door both in the mornings and the afternoons. All adults should wear a mask during drop off and collection.

	Drop off	Collection
Parrett	08:40	15:20
Aller	08:40	15:20
Sedgemoor	08:45	15:25
Northmoor	08:45	15:25
Isle	08:50	15:30
Kingsmoor	08:40	15:30

Food

Food vouchers and hampers will no longer be provided to Free School Meal children as they will be able to have lunch in school. We will be providing hot lunches from Monday, 8 March which will need to be ordered by 09:00 on Tuesday next week (2 March). Please book these through WisePay now.

Appearance

Please ensure your child has the correct uniform and that everything still fits them. They will need to bring their PE kit in on the first day they return to school.

We understand that hair cutting is still a challenge! Boys and girls must have their hair tied back if it is on their shoulder or falls on to their face when working. Hair should not be dyed. Hair clips and ties should be discreet.

Early Birds and Busy Bees (wraparound care)

We are going to open Early Birds from 08:00 and Busy Bees after school until 17:30 from Monday, 8 March. Existing Early Birds places remain in place. Please book and pay on WisePay now for both but please note there are some changes to the way these services should be booked:

- A limit is placed on the number of children attending this provision so booking is essential any time up to the start time of the session. Early booking will guarantee a place and will enable us to have adequate food, drink and resources for activities available.
- We can no longer accept cash payments for bookings; all bookings and payments need to be made in advance through WisePay. In the case of an emergency such as a late collection of a child from school, we will still ask you to book a place through WisePay if possible. If this is not possible, we will take cash payment for one session maximum per term per family.

Clubs and Boosters

We will not be starting clubs this term as our staff will be working after school with children in booster sessions. Dependent on how children return to school, we may start some enrichment clubs after Easter.

Invitations for Boosters will be sent out from next week but will be adjusted once all children return to school. Please reply to these as soon as possible as we will offer the places to other children if no response is received.

COVID

We kindly ask that all adults wear masks when visiting the school perimeter. The School Office should not be used by parents until further notice. All adults inside school will be wearing masks until further notice.

Children should not wear masks or bring them into school but we understand that these may be worn to and from school and handed over to parents before coming onto site.

All adults in school are currently undertaking testing twice a week which increases the possibility of a bubble needing to close. Please ensure you answer your phone if the school number rings and we have your up-to-date details. We may need to close classes at short notice for which we apologise in advance.

Finally

I have been so impressed with the task that you have undertaken as parents and carers holding down jobs, caring for relatives and your children and teaching them under these uncertain times and sometimes when you yourselves have been ill.

We are all hoping that you feel the same as us; that the 8 March will be a line in the sand where we can celebrate the return of all of our lovely children into school ready to grow and learn. We are taking every precaution possible and are fully aware of the gravity of this situation. However, the golden lining in all of this is that it has reminded my colleagues and me that there is no better life or vocation than being in a school full of enthusiastic, funny and inquisitive young people. We cannot wait to see you and your children again over the next few weeks.

Kind regards

Tiffany Doughty Davis (Mrs)
Headteacher