

HEPS News



Week beginning 28.03.2022

The Week Ahead...

	Cocklemoor	Haymoor	Leazemoor	Perrymoor	Portmoor	Saltmoor	Kingsmoor
Monday		Wear PE kit					
Tuesday	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC Wear PE kit	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC
Wednesday					Wear PE kit		
Thursday	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC Wear PE kit	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC	Parents Evening TBC Ukulele 13:30
Friday	Bring in PE kit					Swimming 13:30	Wear PE kit

Quick link to our Twitter Feed:

@H_E_P_S



Quick link to Calendar Dates:

[HEPS Diary Dates](#)



HEPS Chair of Governors & Safeguarding Governor:

Mr Russell Head

Vice Chair:

Mr Sam Jackson



Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Doughty Davis, Headteacher

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Miss Chadbourne, Deputy Headteacher



Letters/emails sent out recently or reminders:

Covid update All Pupils
Covid Survey All Pupils

School Lunches: Please make your menu choices and/or book and pay on WisePay by 09:00am on Tuesday, 29 March 2022 for meals w/c 4 April 2022 (week 1 menu).

Residential Trips: The closing date for all payments for the London and Kilve trip is Thursday 31 March 2022, next week.

Parents Evening: Parents evenings next week will not take place in the hall. We have several options to consider and will make the final decision on Monday morning when we have information regarding the health status of Teachers.

Clubs: School clubs have been cancelled this week due to staffing and had already been cancelled next week for parents evenings. We are hoping to get them up and running for the last week of term but this will depend on staffing. We will update this next week in the newsletter.

Free School Meal Easter Offer: Creative Performance Academy at the Octagon Theatre & Westlands, will be holding a 4 day event which is free for children in receipt of Free School Meals, as funded by Somerset CC and Somerset Activity & Sports Partnership. *Stage Combat & Silly Stories: A Play in a Week* will take place on from 11th - 14th April, for ages 8-13 years, during the Easter holidays. Participants will take part in a range of theatre workshops, learn to stage an epic battle through stage combat and perform a devised play at the end of their week. Plus participants will each receive a hot meal each day.

There are a limited number of subsidised places available for children receiving FSM. To receive their free place participants will need to use the unique booking code as issued by SASP earlier this month. <https://www.octagon-theatre.co.uk/whats-on/all-shows/stage-combat-and-silly-stories-a-play-in-a-week/8794/>

Office closed: We have been taking some children in through the front door as a special arrangement this week. We will be unable to continue this from Monday. Please meet Mrs Doughty Davis at the gate at 08:50 where she will gladly take the children to their classes if parents or carers are COVID positive but children remain negative.

Please phone or email rather than come to the School Office in person between now and the Easter holiday.

COVID resurgence survey: Please see the pages below which show the survey results. We have responded generally to all comments received. We very much appreciate the response to this survey which is the highest ever received. Thank you for the positive comments which have been passed on to all staff; these have been just the tonic for such a challenging time.

Oliver!: Year 6 have been invited to attend a matinee performance of Oliver! On Tuesday next week at Huish Episcopi Academy. We will be liaising with the Academy staff and considering if this can go ahead which will be dependent on COVID numbers.

Safeguarding: Children should have a sun hat in school every day. This can be any colour or style but should have a peak and/or brim to protect faces and necks. Ideally, this should only be used for school so it isn't taken out of school bags and left at home. Children should arrive at school with sun cream already applied. Cream can be kept in bags so top-ups can be made by the child.

Capture a Comment: *"My favourite part of this week, my first week, was the maths lesson. It was on greater than and less than. I did it very well and enjoyed it. I then had an extra challenge with some addition problems with Mrs Kenchington. It's been a busy week."* (Owen, Year 3)

Question on the gate: *"When can my son wear shorts again?"*

"As the weather has been so warm this week, we are happy for pupils to wear shorts from this point. If we have a cold snap again then we ask parents and carers to bring the trousers out again.

Similarly, on warmer days, we are happy for children to wear gingham summer dresses with navy and white check.

Please ensure your child can dress and undress themselves easily with any new items of clothing and that they are loose enough for the air to flow in warmer weather.

As stated in our planner, uniform clothing choices are gender neutral."

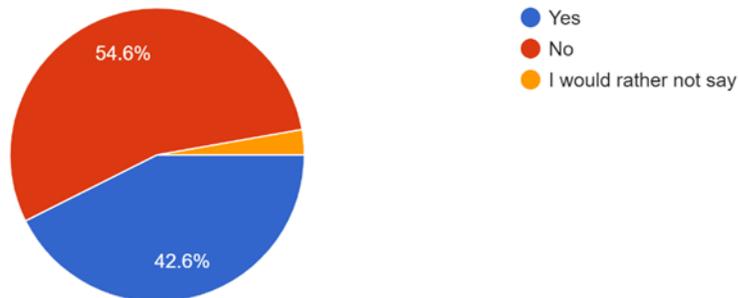
Sparkle Jar Reading—5 reads a week minimum

Cocklemoor	Haymoor	Leazemoor	Perrymoor	Portmoor	Saltmoor	Kingsmoor
95%	93%	96%	86%	93%	100%	100%

COVID Resurgence Survey Results:

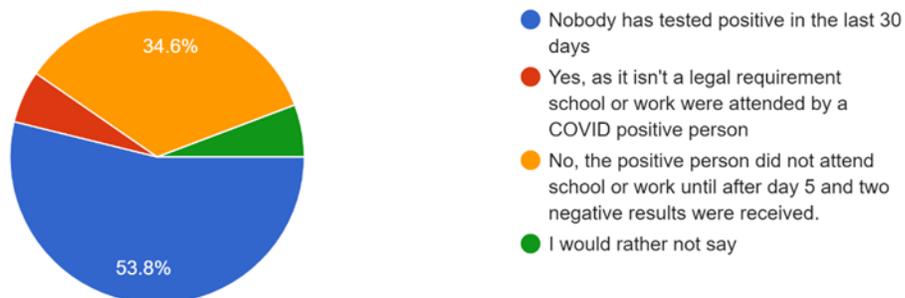
Has anyone in your household tested positive for COVID in the last 30 days?

108 responses



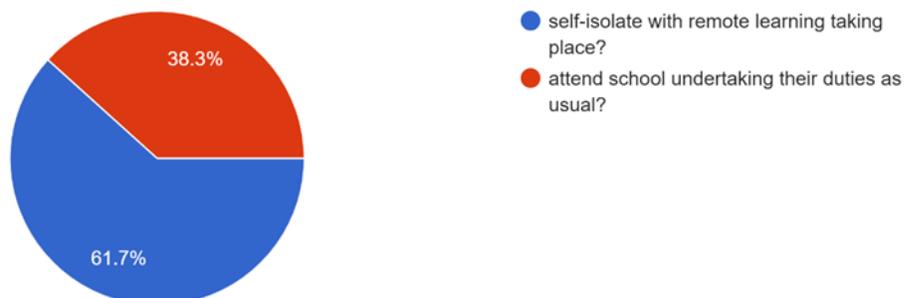
If someone has tested positive in the last 30 days, has this person attended work or school in the usual manner, or returned sooner than receiving two...t is no longer a legal requirement to self-isolate?

104 responses



If there were no legal requirement for school staff to self isolate, would you rather school staff who test positive for COVID:

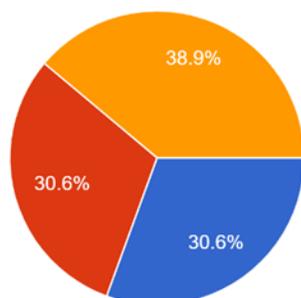
107 responses



COVID Resurgence Survey Results

If remote learning returned, would each of your children have a dedicated laptop or PC during the day on which to complete home learning?

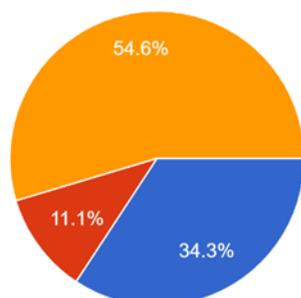
108 responses



- Yes, each of my children would have their own PC or laptop.
- My children would need to share a PC or laptop but would have access to it during the day.
- No, my children wouldn't have access to a PC or laptop during the day.

If remote learning returned, would you rather:

108 responses



- have some live online teaching if we had sufficient staff to undertake this?
- have teaching resources online but not live?
- have packs of work to be completed in a similar format to the last lockdowns?

Please write any comments here about any aspect of our approach to COVID either currently or for future periods of significant absence. Both comments which aid improvement and positive notes are welcomed.

C: comment

R: response

C: 16 x positive comments about: how hard school staff are working; good communication; HEPS hasn't been as affected as other local schools/childcare providers; high quality of teaching has been maintained; and planning ahead so parents know what may happen.

R: Thank you, this is very much appreciated. Everyone is working very hard to maintain the high standards for all children. This has been increasingly challenging with fewer staff. These lovely comments have been passed onto staff.

C: 8 x comments regarding everyone treating COVID similarly to other illnesses, ie if you are unwell then stay at home and if well enough, children and staff should be in school.

R: These results have been passed onto Somerset County Council and may form part of the COVID update on 1 April.

C: 4 x comments asking for a remote parent evening next week/not being comfortable coming into school.

R: We will be making a decision regarding parents evening on Monday morning when we have more information regarding the health of all of our Teachers. We will be considering postponing the parent evenings or holding them over the phone.

COVID Resurgence Survey Results:

C: 3 x comments appreciating the survey and to gather parental opinion.

R: It's important everyone is able to have their opinion heard. This helps us understand the challenges and what would work well for our families.

C: 3 x comments about packs being better due to them not being time sensitive so this fits around working from home.

R: If we were to go to home learning, we would focus on packs but with some live input if we had sufficient staff to undertake this. The live input wouldn't be crucial if children weren't able to access it, however, it would be beneficial.

C: 2 x replies commented on HEPS COVID policy.

R: This is misleading as we are following government guidance and liaising with Public Health regarding staffing levels/closing classes, unauthorised absences, the requirement to test and the timing of actions etc

C: 2 x comments relate to the practicalities of working from home whilst trying to manage childcare and having a device available for each child making live teaching only possible for a minority of children.

R: We have seen the survey results and have heard all the opinions. If we were to go to home learning, we would focus on packs but with some live input if we had sufficient staff to undertake this. The live input wouldn't be crucial if children weren't able to access it, however, it would be beneficial.

C: 2 x concerns regarding children in SAT year groups.

R: We are hoping that all classes will remain in school.

C: 2 x comments about live lessons being the preference.

R: If we were to go to home learning, we would focus on packs but with some live input if we had sufficient staff to undertake this. The live input wouldn't be crucial if children weren't able to access it, however, it would be beneficial.

C: 1 x comment saying that the numbers of COVID cases at HEPS are high.

R: Yes, there are many cases.

C: 1 x comment regarding younger children finding online learning challenging.

R: We are hoping that all classes will remain in school.

C: 1 x comment regarding preference for COVID positive staff not to be in school.

R: Thank you.

C: 1 x question about keyworker children and places.

R: Wherever possible, vulnerable and keyworker children would be given priority for places providing staff were available to support this.

C: 1 x comment asking about percentages for classes for positive cases.

R: This changes every day in every class. Most parents are testing but many children are ill before testing positive, we are sending home children who are ill but some are ill due to other reasons. Due to these reasons, we are not able to report accurate numbers. However, to give an example, on Friday 11 March we had 3 reported cases, on Monday 14 March we had 15 cases, of which we were aware.

C: 1 x comment regarding loaning of IT equipment.

R: We believe that between 50%-60% of children do not have their own device. We are unable to loan 90-100 devices. We will therefore focus on packs but with some live input if we had sufficient staff to undertake this. The live input wouldn't be crucial if children weren't able to access it, however, it would be beneficial.

COVID Resurgence Survey Results:

C: 1 x comment about SENCo support if working from home was necessary.

R: Vulnerable children would be asked to attend school where staffing permitted.

C: 1 x comment regarding single parents and no government support if parents have to stay at home to home-school.

R: We do understand and will only go to remote learning if we are unable to safely open the school.

Thank you to all parents and carers who completed this survey. This will enable us to develop our provision and ways of working during this period and any subsequent resurgences of COVID.