



25 February 2021

To All Parents/Carers

Dear Parents & Carers

I am delighted to be writing to you with the great news that we will be fully open to all pupils from **Monday 8th March**. It is expected by the Government that all children will return, apart from those who have a shielding letter.

In order for teachers to set up classes and have training on the new guidelines and Risk Assessment, Friday 5th March will now be a training day and school will be closed to children. There will be no Google Classroom or in-school face-to-face teaching. Teachers will post work/activities on Google Classroom for that day.

I have been informed by Public Health England that the cases in Hounslow may be falling slowly but they are still the highest in London. All the previous restrictions with bubbles and Covid-19 social distancing and mask wearing will continue to apply. If there are cases in your child's bubble/class, the bubble/class will be required to self-isolate for 10-days. Please can I remind parents when dropping-off or collecting their children on school grounds to wear masks and maintain good social distancing. Drop-off and pick-up times remain the same as the autumn term: 8.45am and 3pm. We will still be operating virtual meetings and telephone/email communication only, so please contact the School Office by telephone if you need to speak to a member of staff or arrange a meeting with your child's teacher.

Vaccine Eligibility

If you fall into the category of being an unpaid carer for a disabled person and are receiving disability allowance, please contact your GP as this puts you in the priority list for receiving the Covid-19 vaccine.

Testing For Secondary Children

The school will be provided with rapid lateral flow testing kits to send out to parents for the testing of their children. As we are a SEND school, I am aware that for some children it will be inappropriate for parents to cause them distress by insisting they are tested and this is fine. I am asking parents who think their child can tolerate doing a test once a week to try and help us keep Marjory Kinnon as safe as possible by doing these tests on a Sunday before they start the school week. We will provide a box of 7 tests, which should last until Easter. The tests are a simple nose and throat swab. There are instructions included in the box on how to process the results. For some of you, who may be worried that your child may bring the virus into your home, it also gives you peace of mind to test them regularly. If your child does test positive after doing a test, you are then required to self-isolate as a household and may want to get the full PCR test to confirm this.

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Testing For Staff

Staff will also be using these test regularly to identify any cases as quickly as possible and avoid in-school transmission.

Staffing On Return

You may be aware that the Government has recently changed the criteria on shielding and more staff now fall into that category. If they have a letter from their GP telling them to shield, we are not allowed to ask them to work until shielding ends on the 31st March. Your child may return therefore and have a different teacher or teaching assistants in the class. We are unable to discuss medical conditions or reveal any personal information as part of data protection laws, so please can I ask you not to ask teachers or Senior Leaders any questions linked to this.

Remote Learning & Technology Devices on Loan

We have provided on loan a high number of technology devices to support home schooling at this time. The school received a small number from the Government but decided to buy over 100 from our own budget. I would like to ask parents to do their very best to ensure they are kept safe and not damaged. We are going to leave these devices with families until the end of term in July, just in case we have to shut down bubbles or classes and revert to Google Classroom while pupils self-isolate. At the end July we will be asking for these devices to be returned to school so they can be used in lessons to promote learning.

World Book Day

Just a reminder that it is World Book Day next week on the 4th March, so we would encourage you to share a book with your child as the teachers will be doing book-related activities on Google Classroom. Please ask your teacher any questions you may have or ring the School Office.

Hammersmith, Fulham, Ealing & Hounslow Mind Programme - 'Know my Mind'



The project offers free 1:1, group and peer support sessions on a variety of topics from managing anxiety to coping during the pandemic. Groups start on 1st March 2021.

If family members would like to register their interest, more information and a Referral Form can be found at <https://www.hfehmind.org.uk/get-support/know-my-mind/> or email knowmymind@hfehmind.org.uk.

Finally, thank you all for the incredible support you have given the school during this very difficult time. It is looking much more positive now for the future, with hopefully fewer and fewer disruptions to the children's education.

Yours faithfully

Tracy Meredith
Headteacher