



Huttoft Primary and Nursery School (Academy)

Church Lane
Huttoft, Nr. Alford
Lincolnshire LN13 9RE
Tel: (01507) 490284
E-mail: office@huttoft.lincs.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr D Davey
Company No: 08177181



4th January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of our school,

Firstly, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year. We hope this year will bring more happiness, stability, peace and normality back into our lives.

The return to school for this new term has been rather more confusing and anxiety filled than we could have ever imagined it would be. Even with the backdrop of all that has gone before, in an environment where nothing is certain and things change almost on a daily basis; life has been far more stressful than it should have been. Hopefully this letter will bring a degree of clarity and ease many concerns that families have whilst also informing parents of expectations for school life for the coming weeks.

As I highlighted in my letter yesterday, we ask that you ensure your child attends school with only the essentials they need for the school day. Anything that they have been bringing in previously that is not essential could lead to contamination issues across the school. With this in mind from tomorrow 5th January 2021 until further notice we ask that children do not wear ties in school.

We understand that many parents are keeping their children off school due to increased fears over safety; I would like to reassure you that we have done everything possible to ensure your child's safety. Where parents keep their child off school the Department for Education and the Local Authority's advice is that school should not send learning home for children. Children will only receive remote learning if they:

- are isolating awaiting a COVID test result for a member of their household
- are isolating as a member of their family has symptoms of COVID
- or a member of their household has tested positive for COVID

Tomorrow we are sending out class curriculum sheets to inform parents and children what they will be covering in the curriculum this term. For those children not receiving daily learning parents can use this sheet to assist them in supporting their child. Parents can find support for their child online at Oak National Academy where lessons can be found linked to the topics children should be learning in school.

In line with our school Risk Assessment and to enable school to be deep cleaned daily, all staff will be asked to vacate the school building by 4pm. This will change to 3:30pm on 11th January as unfortunately due to the risk of bubble cross contamination, we will be unable to continue our before and after school provision from the beginning of next week. This of course will come as no surprise to many of you but I realise it will inconvenience some parents. This is a decision that has been taken as a last resort and to secure the safety of staff and protect the integrity of our school staffing bubbles as



the risk of the potential spread of the virus across bubbles cannot be mitigated at breakfast and after school clubs. I am also urging staff to ensure they do not take books home to mark as this could also assist the spread of the virus.

Children will not be doing normal PE lessons for the foreseeable future as activities are limited without sharing resources (except in Year 4 on Thursday where children will do hockey) but instead they will do a brief daily physical activity outside. For this children will change footwear only to reduce possible contamination when getting changed. If it is not possible due to weather conditions, these activities will not take place as it is not safe to do this indoors. Unfortunately, children will also not have the resources they would normally play with during break times due to the need to regularly clean these resources.

This evening I am having a virtual meeting with all staff to impress upon them the need to ensure we continue with the rigorous processes and procedures that we have in place for hygiene; I know they are at the forefront of this and ensure our children's safety is of the highest priority.

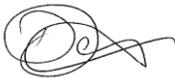
From the end of today until further notice there will be no face to face meetings in school and we will go back to limiting the visitors to school during the school day. We are also asking that only one person comes on site to drop children off and to pick them up to reduce number of people potentially mixing.

Finally, allow me to re-emphasise the importance of the issues highlighted last evening, please ensure:

- **you continue to wear a face mask whilst on site**
- **your child arrives at school in plenty of time at the beginning of the school day**
- **you collect your child and leave the playground promptly at the end of the school day**
- **whilst you are on the school playground you do not congregate in groups and you observe social distancing measures**
- **you do not enter the school foyer as the school office remains closed**
- **your child only brings from home what they need for school and nothing else**

We may introduce other measures at the end of the school day should we feel this necessary but we will obviously communicate these to you as and when changes take place.

With warmest regards



Damian Davey
Headteacher