



PARK HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

LOWER EASTERN GREEN LANE, COVENTRY - CV5 7LR
TEL: 024 7646 6669 - EMAIL: adminstaff@parkhill.coventry.sch.uk
School website: www.parkhillprimaryschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Mr P Griffin

26th February, 2021

Dear Parents,

Earlier this week, on Monday evening, the Prime Minister informed the nation that on **8th March** schools should reopen to all children.

It has been almost a year since the first national lockdown - where schools were asked to close. The Covid pandemic has caused a great deal of disruption to our lives and what a journey it has been.

It therefore gives me great pleasure to be able to write to you today and share with you a plan for the wider reopening of school, inviting all children to return to Park Hill on **Monday 8th March**. I'm sure that I speak for you all when I hope that this will be the final whole school closure and that we will see gradual 'normality' return to our lives.

Staggered Start / End

The Social Distancing measures that we have all become accustomed to both in and around school **will not change** - certainly not for the foreseeable future. There will still be a staggered beginning and end to the school day for children. Our aim is to manage the footfall in and around the site as effectively as possible. We need your assistance in this matter if it is to work.

You will be aware that all children who attend Park Hill, excluding Pre School, are placed into a House Team. Siblings should also be in the same House Team. The Leadership Team think that it makes sense to use this as a basis for our staggered times to the school day. I would like to encourage you all to read the table below and to ensure that you adhere as closely as possible to the times outlined for drop off and collection of children. We are encouraging you to work with us around these Drop Off and Collection 'windows'. Pre School children, who do not have an older sibling in school, will attend school around their usual drop off/collection times.

House Team (of child)	Drop Off Window	Collection Window
Coombe	8:45-8:50am	3:15-3:20pm
Gosford	8:50-8:55am	3:20-3:25pm
Quinton	8:55-9:00am	3:25-3:30pm
Spencer	9:00-9:05am	3:30-3:35pm

Entrance and Exit Points

I do not see a major change to the entrances and exits that you and your children have been used to since the start of the academic year in September 2020. I have asked year group teachers to clarify arrangements specifically to you (rather than create another table in this letter). I have asked them to send a Dojo message on **Monday 1st March** reminding you of the route into school - I don't think that you will find any major surprises!

Face Coverings

I would like to ask you all to wear a face covering upon entering and moving around the school site. Again, I would like to encourage us all to do 'our bit' in ensuring all safety measures are being taken. None of us want to be in a situation where we are being asked to close or partially close the school again and on this basis we must do everything possible to limit risk. Please expect staff presence around the school site - encouraging face coverings to be worn unless we are aware of reasons (i.e. exemption!)

School Attendance

The Local Authority has highlighted that they expect all children to return to school on 8th March. Of course, if children are unwell or there are confirmed cases of Covid, we would expect periods of self-isolation or children not to attend school. The Local Authority are expecting Park Hill to follow normal guidelines in the eventuality of non attendance of children - this will initially be staff making telephone calls and possible home visits before contacting the local authority welfare officer for further advice and guidance.

Borrowed Equipment

We have been able to support some families with loan of school equipment i.e. a laptop since the partial closure of the school. I would like to ask you to return this to school please - no later than **Friday 5th March**. It should be returned to the school office.

What children should bring to school

I would like to encourage children to bring essential items to school with them each day please. The items that I consider essential are a small bag only (perhaps a book bag), their school book and also their water bottle. If they have a packed lunch, this too! I would like to discourage children from bringing large bags such as a rucksack into school.

Lateral Flow Tests (LFT)

The Local Authority are continuing to encourage families to engage with the lateral flow test programme and for children to be included in testing. It is not compulsory but similar to the view of the Local Authority, we would encourage participation with LFT also. For your information, the Excel Centre is the testing centre closest to Park Hill.

Buddies

Buddies will be opened once again and their opening and closing times will revert back to pre Covid schedule. This means that we will be offering care for children from 7:30 each morning and after school until 5:30 in the evening. The Buddies Team will be here to support your needs. **Jane Waterhouse** will be available in the school office to confirm Buddies places. Please contact her next week and no later than **Wednesday 3rd March** so that we are aware of and ready to welcome your child. Her email address is: jwaterhouse@parkhill.coventry.sch.uk

I recognise that this has been a rather long letter, but I hope that I have answered any key questions that you may have had - the detail is important.

I would like to end with the same sentiment that I started this letter with by reiterating that I am really looking forward to welcoming the children back to school a week on Monday and settling down to working in partnership with you all to ensure the very best outcomes for each and every one of them. I'm quietly hopeful that we are on path to recovery!

See you all very soon,

Kind regards,

Mr P. Griffin
Headteacher
Park Hill Primary School