



Dear Parents/Carers,

If like me, you watched the Prime Minister address the country on Monday night and you will have heard him say that all children will be returning to school on Monday 8th March.

I just wanted to write to you to let you know what we are doing in school to prepare for the return of all the children.

Risk Assessment

Throughout the whole of the pandemic, we have ensured all of our procedures take into account the Government's guidance as well as all of the guidance from Leeds City Council's Health and Safety team.

Our Risk Assessment is on the school website: <https://www.hunsletcarr.co.uk> and is regularly updated when guidance changes.

Reopening for All Children

From Monday 8th March we expect all children to return to school as normal unless they are self-isolating for COVID reasons or have a childhood illness.

When the children return, school will look almost the same as it did before the Christmas break.

The children will be in their year group bubbles and we will continue with the measures that kept us safe, such as:

- children will be asked to wash their hands multiple times during the day
- they will be taught and reminded how to safely cough and sneeze
- they will sit at tables set out in rows so that they are facing the front
- they will have a pencil case (provided by school) with equipment
- they will be encouraged to avoid touching each other
- during the day, additional cleaners will be employed to clean areas of the school that might be used by different bubbles, such as the tables in the hall between each lunch sitting
- at the end of each day the classroom, equipment and areas where children will have touched during the day will be deep cleaned.

Start and End of the Day Timings

Just like in September when the children came back to school, we will be using the three different gates around school and three different start and end times.

This is to reduce the number of people coming into contact with each other during these times. We would also ask that if you are not medically exempt from wearing a face mask, that adults wear masks during drop off / pick up.

Below is a table to help explain which gate you should use and at what time.

Please remember – if you have more than one child at school, please only come at the later time to avoid having to drop off and pick up multiple times.

Year Group	Gate	Start of School	End of School
Nursery	Top Gate on Sandon Mount	8.40am	3.10pm
Reception	Top Gate on Sandon Mount	8.50am	3.20pm
Year 1	Main Gate on Woodhouse Hill	8.40am	3.10pm
Year 2	Main Gate on Woodhouse Hill	8.50am	3.20pm
Year 3	Back Gate on Leasowe Ave	8.40am	3.10pm
Year 4	Main Gate on Woodhouse Hill	9.00am	3.30pm
Year 5	Top Gate on Sandon Mount	9.00am	3.30pm
Year 6	Back Gate on Leasowe Ave	8.50am	3.20pm
Restorative Learning	Gate at front of the House	8.50am	3.20pm

How we will help your child's wellbeing at school

For the majority of children, coming back to school on the 8th will be the first time they have been to school since before Christmas. We recognise that it may be a difficult and emotional time for both your child and for you.

We are very aware of a child's mental health and have excellent processes set up to help your children settle back into school. These will include:

- worry boxes around school where children can express how they are feeling and times when the class sits in a circle to share their thoughts
- lessons on mindfulness and how to control their breathing to feel calm
- a higher focus on children being outside in the fresh air and exercising
- specific people in school who the children know they can trust and speak to about what they are worrying about.

How we will help your child's education at school

While so many of you have done an amazing job with home learning, for many children, coming back into the classroom to read, write and use their maths skills might cause them to worry.

We recognise this and our teachers will be looking to quickly assess where your child is regarding their learning in the first few weeks back. From there, our teachers will be planning and teaching lessons that are aimed at addressing the gaps children might have because they have been away.

We intend to support our children, nurture them and give them a 'can-do' attitude where they believe 'Impossible is Nothing!', rather than pressurise them to catch-up. Our plan is to teach the children in such a way that they will catch up with where they would have been if the two lockdowns hadn't happened by this time next year.

After School Clubs

Boris Johnson surprised us by announcing After School Clubs could begin again.

We will be working over the next few weeks to put together a range of clubs that the children can attend. Miss Bunce will be writing to you about those.

Breakfast Club

By having children in bubbles the size of year groups we will once again be able to open up Breakfast Club and support working parents or parents who rely on this service.

There will be a dining table for children in each year group so that they can sit side-by-side to eat their breakfast, which will be brought to their table by our staff. There will be a reduced menu of toast with various spreads and cereal but we hope that the children still enjoy this fantastic start to the day.

Online Learning

I know as a parent how hard it has been getting my daughter to go online during lockdown to do the work set by her school. However, I would urge you to not stop helping them over the next 7 days.

I know it might be tempting to think it is not worth the battle as they will be back in school a week on Monday, but learning moves so fast in school. In the early years, children learn a new sound every day and bigger numbers. Higher up the school, they might be introduced to a new concept in Maths.

I know it has been tough, but please keep going with the work online or the paper packs for 7 more days until they are back with us.

World Book Day

Even though the 'real' world book day is on Thursday 4th March, we are going to hold our events on Thursday 11th March so that all the children can be back in school for it.

Mrs Standish and Miss Whitfield will be getting in touch to let you know of the events taking place in school that day.

Parent and Carer phone calls

Even though the children will be back in school on March 8th, visits to school will still not be allowed. Just like in the autumn, instead of having parents' and carers' evening, we are hoping to set up phone calls home to discuss how your child is getting on this year. These will be sometime during week beginning March 22nd. Look out for a letter about this nearer the time.

Any Questions

We are so looking forward to welcoming all the children back. If in the meantime you have any questions or comments about the school's plans please get in touch either via the school office on 0113 2713804 or via email martin.lumb@hunsletcarr.co.uk where we will respond as soon as possible.

Kind Regards,
Martin Lumb
Headteacher.