

INFORMATION ABOUT RETURNING TO SCHOOL FOR RECEPTION ROBINS

Parents and carers – please read through this carefully and talk to your child about the bits that they need to be familiar with. Thank you.

We have made preparations for the phased return to school of Reception children (Robins) from 1st June. However, this is a changing situation and the 'green light' to go ahead (or not) is expected from the government on Thursday 28th May. If the situation changes and we are not opening, this will be clearly posted on the home page of the school website (www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk). Please check this after 28th May. We will open unless our website says we will not.

The small group is being offered 3 days in school each week – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The school day for Robins will be 8.30am – 3.10pm. Children should remain at home on Mondays and Fridays.

Reassurance about Safety Measures:

Please be assured that the fundamental priority throughout our detailed risk assessment, careful planning and good organisation has been the health, safety and wellbeing of children and staff and this will continue to remain uppermost in our minds and drive everything we do.

A risk assessment is in place and has been 'signed' off by the governing body as well as detailed plans and operational considerations to make school as safe and hygienic as we possibly can.

- Robins will be taught and supervised by Polly, Elizabeth and Sarah plus either Sandra or Bimla – all staff that they know well.
- The Foundation Stage rooms have been reorganised and surplus furniture moved or taken out to make it more spacious and to encourage children not to be so close to each other.
- The outside area will be available and in use all day allowing children to be more spaced out and spend plenty of time outside in the fresh air.
- Frequently used equipment will be swapped over each day so that it is fresh and not harbouring germs (e.g. pencils and pens).
- As far as is possible soft toys and fabric material resources and toys (e.g. dressing up clothes) have been packed away or minimised. Any fabric material resources that are used will either be washed each day or stored away after use for a period of time to ensure no potential residual 'virus' still exists.
- There will be frequent handwashing and sanitizing of surfaces.
- Tissues and additional waste bins will be available in every area being used.
- Robins will not mix with other age groups or move to different parts of school – they will remain within the Foundation Stage class and outside area throughout the day – that will be their 'bubble'. When outside the children will not be confined to a personal mat, hoop or chalk circle. They will be expected to **not** be hugging and holding each other but in their outside games, chatting and playing it may be that at times they run or play nearer to each other than two metres.
- There will be slightly staggered start and finish times for each group in school.
- Thorough cleaning will take place including all the light switches, door handles, surfaces, toilet and wash basin facilities.
- Any child showing symptoms of illness will immediately be isolated from all others in school and sent home. That family will be supported to get testing asap and if a positive result Public Health guidance will be followed (all staff and children in that 'bubble' to self-isolate for 14 days).
- Social distancing explanations and reminders will be shared regularly with the children in a way that is appropriate for their age, and we will use our best endeavours to encourage learning and play that minimises risk of potential infection spread.
- Any group times will be 'mini' group sessions with just 3 or 4 children well-spaced out on the carpet and being taught by Polly.
- **Children should not attend school if they have any symptoms of any illness, nor if any member of their household has symptoms of Covid-19 (high temperature, a new continuous cough, loss or change to your sense of smell or taste).**

What you need to do:

Robins to **come in and out of school using the usual playground gate closest to your classroom. You will be the only group using this gate.** Please **arrive at the gate at 8.30am.** Please don't be early or late or crowd around the gate. The gate will be open for just a few minutes to let Robins in.

Walk to school if possible, only cycle or scoot if it is too far to walk. Please **DO NOT DRIVE CARS DOWN OUR ROAD** and in front of school **AT ALL,** as children and parents will be needing to use the space to keep apart from each other.

1 parent only to bring children please.

Parents must drop off near the gate. **Parents will not be able to come onto the school site.** Parents must remember to keep 2 metres from other families and staff when in the vicinity of the school gates.

Staff will be positioned to guide and supervise children straight into the Robins' cloakroom where they will be supervised to hang their belongings up and go straight to **wash their hands.**

Please bring a packed lunch and a jacket/coat for outdoor play.

Packed Lunch Important Information – Children must bring their own spoon or fork if needed. Please help us by making sure your child can deal with all packaging, food boxes, flasks and wrappings themselves so staff do not have to handle each child's lunchbox items e.g. opening yoghurts, unscrewing food flasks, pulling open tricky packets. Many thanks.

Do not bring anything else – no toys or gadgets from home please.

What to wear: Please wear a clean outfit each day of comfortable clothes suitable for the weather conditions and **please wear trainers.** There will be times when you are running around outside and exercising so trainers are essential for your safety. It would be very helpful if the children's clothes did not have difficult buttons, zips, fastenings so that they can manage without help e.g. when going to the toilet. All long hair should be tied back.

The staff will talk sensitively to the children about new procedures and expectations in a way appropriate to their age and understanding. It will be different for all of us, but the children will get used to it. We will do all that we can to help the young children to remember about social distancing and to behave well and respect the new and different routines and rules. They are there to keep everyone safe.

Lunch will be eaten in your classroom with hands washed before and after eating, followed by outside play just in your small group.

Every time you go outside you will wash your hands before and after. You will also be asked to wash your hands at lots of other times during the day.

Robins will wait spaced out in the main playground, ready to go home at 3.10pm. Parents please try to be prompt collecting at 3.10pm (not early or late) to enable our staggered times to work safely for all groups using school. Parents should wait in the road/pavement area rather than come into school. When the staff see you, they will usher your child safely to you at the gate.

Attendance

Parents please phone the school (01865 242169) if your child is not going to come to school on one of their allocated days so that we are aware of the reason for their absence – thank you.