



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff, Governors and Friends of New Hinksey,

A very warm welcome back to the new school year. It has been fantastic to have nearly every child back and the school looks and sounds like a proper school again albeit a little different to how we operated before lockdown. The children seem to have taken it all in their stride, being very sensible, kind and considerate to their friends and the staff as we all get used to new procedures. We are so impressed by our new Ducklings and Robins who are saying goodbye to the parents at the gate and coming into class independently. Thank you for excellent attendance – nearly every child expected was in school today. The children are enjoying the colourful and interactive new playground markings that the PTA organised for us as well as a super wooden play hut in the back playground and some sturdy multicoloured benches. School organised for Doves, Woodpecker and Kingfisher classes to be redecorated over the summer and the classrooms are looking great – we hope the children have noticed!

**Drop Off and Pick Up Times:** We have carefully staggered the times and the gates to allow each class to get safely into their classrooms without mixing with other class bubbles. Therefore, we ask you all to stick very carefully to the allotted times, not arriving very much earlier or later. We are allowing 5-minute windows of each gate being open. Thank you for helping us to run smoothly and keep everyone safe.

**What to wear to school:** Please could every child wear **clean clothes each day that are suitable for being outside for both playtimes and PE. This means wearing trackies, leggings or comfortable shorts/trousers, a comfortable top or t-shirt with a jumper/sweatshirt/hoodie/cardigan, well fitted trainers that are easy to run in, and have a waterproof jacket with them.** We have sports coaches coming in on some days and are also trying to give fresh air breaks and use outside for some activities so the children need to be prepared to be outside no matter what the weather! We suggest that children wear a number of layers so that they can get comfortable in school because lots of windows will be open to maintain good ventilation. Children do not need to have another PE kit on their pegs as they will not be changing for PE. However we do recommend that children in Foundation Stage, Years 1 and 2 have a change of clothes on their pegs and leave them there for the duration of the term just in case they are needed for any accidents or if they get wet or dirty during any play or art activities. **Shoelaces** – it is impossible to tie young children's shoelaces for them without being very close, facing them. Therefore, we would like to ask that parents send children in to school in shoes/trainers that children can put on and fasten themselves.

**Lunches and Water Bottles:** Every child in KS 1 and KS2 must have a named water bottle in school every day that they are able to manage themselves. Please don't send bottles that are so hard to open or very tricky to make work. A simple, refillable sports style bottle is ideal. From Monday the kitchen will be producing a tasty, nutritious packed lunch style meal at lunchtime. The menu is available to view in ParentPay. Every meal has a main item along with a selection of fresh veg crudities, a yoghurt, a piece of fresh fruit and a homemade cookie or biscuit. The main items with this selection are:

Monday – **pizza**; Tuesday – **veggie hot dog**; Wednesday – **cheese bap**; Thursday – **veggie sausage roll**; and on Friday the meal will be **fish fingers and chips**.

As we are not able to offer a choice in the current circumstances all the meals are vegetarian. Please log into ParentPay to pre book children in. The lunches are free to all children in Reception (Robins) Yr1 Finches and Yr2 Owls as well as to any families who are entitled to free school meals. All other KS2 children can book lunches at a cost of £2.40 per meal, all booked and paid for using ParentPay. Please ensure you have money in credit before booking any lunches. Many thanks.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**Face Masks:** We are not expecting primary aged children to wear face masks in school. If any child is wearing a face mask on their journey to and from school they must have a plastic zip lock bag to securely fasten it into at the school gate and keep safe throughout the day.

**Jewellery:** Every child with long hair should have it tied back each day at school – this can be ponytails, pig tails, plaits, buns, bunches, as long as it is tied back! Thank you. No jewellery should be worn to school other than small stud earrings if ears are pierced and a wristwatch if worn by older children.

**After School Club and Morning Club:** We are running a restricted after school club till 5.30pm each day. Please email Tracey on [office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) about your requirements, if you have not yet done so as requested during July, to see if there is still any availability. We need to keep the group as Covid safe as possible so we are not able to accommodate one off sessions only regular bookings or two of more sessions per week. Similarly please email Tracey on the office email address with any requirements for Morning Club, which runs from 8am. Please note that last year's bookings for these two clubs have not been carried over.

**What if my child is ill?** This will be a difficult term for us all with children picking up the usual colds and sniffles that they get at this time of year. However, because we must be as Covid safe as possible children must not come to school if they are ill until a test has verified that they do not have corona virus. Please could parents keep a very rigorous check on their children's temperatures. If a child has a temperature, a cough or changes to their sense of smell and taste they must be kept at home and should get a Covid test. Information on how to get a test can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by phoning 119. If a child becomes ill at school, especially if they have a high temperature or are coughing, we will isolate them from others and contact a parent to come and collect them as soon as possible. We would not expect children to return to school until a test confirms negative for Covid. If anyone in the school community contracts Covid (this means members of a child's or staff's household as well as the pupils), school must be informed, and we will then take advice from Public Health regarding the next steps to take.

**Contact with Class Teachers:** Please feel free to email your child's teacher if you have any queries or messages that you would normally have mentioned face to face at drop off or pick up time.

Teacher	Class	Email address
Polly Hodgson	Foundation Stage	phodgson@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Miss Martins	Finch	TMartins@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Miss Kilpatrick	Owl	mkilpatrick@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Mrs Tucker	Dove	rtuc1220@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Mrs Nash	Woodpecker	hnas4139@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Miss Potier	Kingfisher	hpot9071@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Ms Christensen	Kingfisher	lchr9699@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

If emailing about a Kingfisher pupil please copy both Miss Potier and Ms Christensen in – thanks.

Apologies that is quite a lot of information to take in. Please remember that all newsletters are posted on the school website ([www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk)) along with other important information so we urge all families to get used to regularly checking the website for any news and updates.

Next week the newsletter will have more information about what the children are learning in their classes which will be much more fun and interesting!

Have a happy weekend.

Best wishes,

Charlotte Haynes