



Hemyock Primary School

Hemyock Primary School
Parklands, Hemyock, Cullompton,
Devon EX15 3RY
T: 01823 680240
M: 07842 524664
E: hemyock@ventrus.org.uk
W: hemyock-primary.devon.sch.uk

15th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support this academic year. This is also represented in your huge response to our recent survey which showed that 95% of you complimented our provision for your children. Thank you for the kind words and further recommendations, these are all valued. Your support for our school, your children and our staff has been overwhelming. Education, health and well-being have been balanced by the team work encountered by our whole school community. We hope that you all have a lovely summer break together as families and that you enjoy a rest where it presents itself in the coming weeks.

That said, we are aware that we will all need to prepare for a mandatory return for all pupils to school in September. Following government guidance, to keep our community safe is essential and the information in this letter will outline our plans which have been thoroughly risk assessed to support a confident return. We are excited to see all children return as staff have very much missed them.

As always Hemyock staff will provide your child with a warm welcome and the reassurance that they may need. Inevitably, it will be a new way of learning for everyone and will require pupils and adults to establish new routines. Teachers have planned the delivery of a broad curriculum which will support your child/ren both emotionally and academically upon return.

Children will learn with, and enjoy lunch and playtimes with, the same children daily. Staff will work across as few pods as possible. Staggered drop off, pick up, lunch and play times throughout the day will ensure that children remain socially distant from other pods. We ask that drop off and pick up times are adhered to, to allow us to safely achieve this. Please see below.

Bubble	1	2		3	4		5	
Class	Star YN	Sun YR	Earth Y1	Moon Y2	Mars Y3	Saturn Y4	Neptune Y5	Mercury Y6
Time	9am- 3.30pm *	8.30am- 3pm	8.30am- 3pm	9am- 3.30pm	8.50am - 3.20pm	8.50am - 3.20pm	8.40am - 3.10pm	8.40am - 3.10pm
Gate	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
Teacher	SL/SG	FL	HF	CM	MM	KS	JT/CG	ML

- Please note that there is an amendment to sessions at preschool during COVID 19 changes:
 - Morning only 9 – 12
 - Morning and lunch 9 – 12.30
 - Afternoon only 12.30 – 3.30



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DROPPING OFF

Parents or visitors will not be allowed to stay on the school site at drop off times. Entry for your child will be through the main gates. Gate A and B will be labelled. A member of staff from your child's pod will be there to greet them and they will need to line up on the cones in front of their teacher. Please say good bye and walk along the turning circle, down the path and out through the single gate to the lane keeping socially distanced from others.

In order to support social distancing, we kindly ask that only one parent drops off their child at school. There will be a member of the admin team at the gate, with teaching staff, to take medicine and any urgent messages. Please direct all other messages through email or by phone. The office continues to be closed to face to face contact.

For children new to school, or difficulties with goodbyes class staff will support where they can but in line with social distancing also. If you have more than one child in school, please bring both children at the earliest time, one may have to wait in their class line a little longer.

PICKING UP

When collecting your child at the end of the day we again ask that one parent only, per family, enters through the main gates and waits on the turning circle, safely spaced, and your child will be sent to you by the staff members in their group. Please step forward immediately to encourage your child to stay next to you as you leave. Please exit promptly through the single gate to the lane. Thankyou.

If you have more than one child in school, at pick up time please be available for both children at the correct times given for their classes above.

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Please do make use of parking further away from school or ideally walk. We will need to make use of local pavements adjoining the school so you will not be able to drive up to the gates or along the road to the gate. We discourage parking in Parklands.

WHAT CAN MY CHILD BRING TO SCHOOL?

- Your child will require a full water bottle and a coat for rainy weather.
- They **can** bring a book bag; books will be sent home once returned books have been quarantined. Please place any books you still have in the blue box at the gate or shed.
- Please apply sun-cream to your child before school. There are many that last for a number of hours. If your child needs to bring this to school, they will need to know how to apply this themselves. A sun hat will also be appropriate for warm weather.
- School lunches - Sun and Earth class will eat in the hall; all other classes will eat in classrooms. Please continue to use ParentPay as you usually would. School meals can be ordered on the day and new menus will be available prior to the start of term. Children can bring a packed lunch if they wish as usual.
- No toys or other objects from home are allowed on site unless requested by the staff.
- All stationary will be provided by the school – therefore no pencil cases are required.



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WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD WEAR TO SCHOOL?

School uniform is encouraged from September however we are aware of the many challenges faced around this. Please know that we are empathetic to these challenges and would encourage you to let us know if this is not possible so that we can support. Please email the school office any questions you have with regard to uniform.

Your child's teacher will let you know when your child's PE day is. Children will need to wear their PE kit into school for that day. This will discourage unnecessary movement around school, additional belongings being left behind and also ensure that kits are cleaned regularly. Please be extra vigilant around ensuring that your child has clean clothing to wear to school.

WHAT WE NEED YOU TO DO

- Talk to your child about school return. Explain who their teacher is and where their classroom will be.
- Remind them how to wash their hands properly and the importance of using the catch it, bin it, kill it actions if they sneeze or cough. Discourage face touching.
- Answer all school calls quickly so that you can come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature, a new, continuous cough or lack of sense of taste or smell).
- Support the school in the event of pod/school closure.
- Check that your child knows the routines outlined above and that they have the correct clothing and belongings for their first day and beyond.
- Ensure that you are on time for drop off and collection times to allow us to adhere to social distancing. Please support our community to keep social distances and be patient with us during start and end of day procedures which will take time to adjust to.
- If your child is unwell or is self-isolating, report this as you would normally by calling or emailing the school office. Pupils should also remain at home for 14 days if anyone they live with shows symptoms.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club will be located in the school hall from September. The children will need to say goodbye to parents at the school gate where Mrs Smelt will greet you between 8am and 8.10am. Please do not arrive later. Mrs Smelt, Miss Drew and Mrs Cooling will run our provision this year and are looking forward to seeing the children. Please book spaces via the school office as usual.

WHAT IF MY CHILD ATTENDS OTHER SETTINGS ALSO?

Please discuss this with us. The Government guidance says 'to minimise contact between groups of children and staff, children should attend just one setting wherever possible and parents and carers should be encouraged to minimise as far as possible the number of education and childcare settings their child attends'. However, we are well aware that this will not be possible in all cases and we would request that you email the school office if your child does attend another setting and provide us with a contact number for that setting in case of track and trace requirements.



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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS:

Please consult the:

- School office via email, if you have any questions about our response to returning in September.
- NHS, if you want to know more about the symptoms of coronavirus. If you think you or your child may have the symptoms, use NHS 111 online if at all possible before calling 111.
- Department for Education's coronavirus helpline: 0800 046 8687, if you have any questions about the Government's response to coronavirus in relation to schools

Thank you again in anticipation of your ongoing continued support. Please do take care and have a great summer with your child/ren and we will see you at school on Monday 7th September.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Willcocks
Head Teacher