



Head Teacher: Kirsti Ashman  
 Dill Avenue, Cheltenham, GL510ES  
 T 01242 525616  
 E [head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk)  
 WWW. [hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk](http://hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk)

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

Dates for Diary 2021

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September: INSET days – Staff only return to school  
 Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September: First Day of Autumn Term 1 - Children return to school

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you are all looking forward to getting back to school, after the summer holidays!

All of the staff are very much looking forward to seeing the children, and families, as well as starting the new academic year a fresh, as we now move to the next phase in easing of the Covid government restrictions.



**Uniform**

We look forward to seeing all of the children in their school uniforms. They always look very smart on return to school. A massive thanks to parents for ensuring that our pupils look and feel a part of the school team. We also appreciate how much this can cost, if you do have any difficulties in getting uniform, please contact Kaytee Parish by emailing [FCW@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:FCW@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk) Also, we have spare "preloved" uniforms, if ever needed.

We will be continuing to ensure that the classrooms and the school is well ventilated, in line with government guidance. Please make sure that your child wears additional layers, such as tights/leggings/thermals under trousers and vests under tops and jumpers.

**Items for School**

Please ensure that your child has their coat, in school every day. Sometimes the children need a run around and some fresh air, even in light rain, so we always need to be prepared. Lunchboxes to be brought in for those who would prefer. We provide water bottles at school, for every child. A healthy snack is also provided, across the school. The school provides all stationery and we ask that no pencil cases or other items are brought in. Teachers will share in class newsletters when they will be changing books and need book bags in school. If unsure bring it in!

**PE Kits**

School have purchased the first PE kit of the year, so that everyone has the same PE uniform, feeling comfortable to move and again so that they feel a part of their sports teams and school. This is so important. Every pupil, this academic year, must wear the proper school PE kit please. We have found this really helpful. They must wear their kit to school, all day, as we have been doing over the past year. PE kits will be handed out this week.



**PE Days**

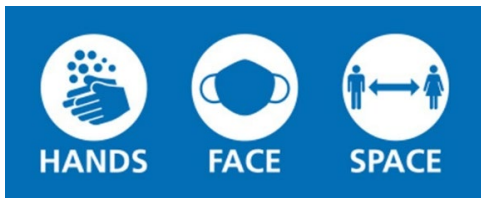
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception	Y4	Y5 Y2	Y1 Y6	Y3

## Start of School Day

The children have been amazing at coming into school, by themselves. This has promoted independence and a settled start to the day. As such, we are keeping this in place. There is no longer a need for "bubbles", children can enter the school gates, alongside peers and other classes, from 8.45am and the gates will be closed at 8.55am. The official start to the school day is 8.50am.

The children will enter the gates and walk straight to their classroom, where staff will be ready to welcome them. We always have members of staff on gate duty. The class quickly get into routines of putting their things away and settling to activities.

## Covid-19 and Social Distancing at the Start and End of the Day



Whilst social distancing and wearing face coverings is now optional, we would ask that you respect the wishes of those who continue to observe these guidelines and also consider avoiding close contact, in groups, on site. This will be particularly relevant at the end of the school day.

We will still ask visitors to wear face masks and hand sanitise when coming into the building. Visitors to school will still be limited, as we move through the next phase of Covid measures in our school.

If you have any important information to share or need the teaching staff to know anything, then please contact your child's class teacher via the class email address – see below. Alternatively, you can contact the office: 01242 525616 or email [admin@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk)

## End of the School Day – Pupil Collection

As we welcome, parents, carers and guardians back onto the playground, in order to collect the children, please can we ask that adults stand well away from the classroom exits, so that children can be released safely and quickly. We are still advised to keep social distancing measures, especially with larger numbers of people.

Gates will open at 2.55pm, the official end of the school day is 3.00pm. Parents can enter the playground and wait outside classrooms, on the playground area. Please do not approach the classroom door. If you do need to speak to the teacher, please wait until the end of collection time or arrange a specific day/time after school. This is for your privacy, safeguarding the children and social distancing measures.

Y5 will leave via the door, near the Pod and Y6 will leave via the office end of the glass corridor. Reception Class have their own induction times.

Please be aware that the gates can get congested with parents/carers entering and leaving, we would ask that everyone is polite, patient and courteous. Please report any issues to member of staff.

## Staffing/Class Emails – sent out via email.

## Covid-19 Updates

As Covid-19 cases remain higher in the south-west region, we ask that everyone remains vigilant in identifying Covid-19 symptoms and where possible does bi-weekly Lateral Flow Tests (LFT). Parents/carers can order these to use at home, if they choose to do so: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> Testing is a way of minimising the risk of transferring potential Covid-19 to others, as well as picking up anyone who has Covid-19 but are not showing any symptoms.

**Please keep any child at home with any Covid-19 symptoms and follow the guidance. We will isolate any child who is showing symptoms, at school, and ask for them to be collected, immediately for testing and self-isolation. Also, any staff with symptoms will be sent home.**

## **Covid-19 Symptoms**

If any child or family member has the Covid-19 symptoms, please continue to test if they have:  
a high temperature, hot to the touch on chest or back - no need to measure temperature  
a new, continuous cough  
a loss, or change in sense of smell or taste

## **Getting a Test and Self-Isolating**

If your child or any member of the household is showing any symptoms call 119 or visit the 119 website to book to attend a GCC mobile testing site or get a home testing kit. The person with the symptoms or positive LFT result, should self-isolate, until the PCR test outcomes are returned. Others in the household should self-isolate, unless they are fully vaccinated (two vaccinations) or under 18 years and 6 months. We have school/home tests at the moment, for pupils with symptoms.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/covid-19-information-and-advice/mobile-testing-unit-locations/>

## **Reporting Positive Covid Cases**

Before starting school next week, please let us know if your child is absent from school with Covid-19 symptoms or a positive test result. We have been fortunate that parents/carers have let us know, when they have received positive case results, so that we can act in school. A massive thank you for this.

NHS Test and Trace will now ask the child/parent/carer who "close contacts" have been at school, within a 48-hour period. You may not know who this has been and we would appreciate it if you could contact school to find out. We will also monitor the situation, as best we can to minimise any further spread.

School will be responsible for contact tracing employees and ensuring that measures are followed.

Please email [admin@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk) if your child has tested positive for Covid.

## **Positive Case Self -Isolation**

The positive Covid-19 case will still self-isolate for 10 days; whilst others in the household should self-isolate, unless they are fully vaccinated (two vaccinations) or under 18 years and 6 months. "Close contacts" will be advised to get a PCR test by NHS Test and Trace. Those who do not need to self-isolate will remain at school, depending on the "close contact" identification and communication through NHS Test and Trace.

We have a GCC SHE Covid-19 Risk Assessment and Outbreak Management Plan, which may see us move back to "bubbles" depending on cases in school. These will be published on the school website.

## **Travelling Abroad**

Please can we ask that anyone travelling in and out of the country, checks the most up to date government guidance around self-isolating, before returning to school.

## **Breakfast and After-School Clubs**

We will be reviewing the "Breakfast Club" provision this term, in light of our current changes to the Covid school risk assessment and introducing after school clubs, in sports and other subject areas.

If you are interested in your child attending a "Breakfast Club" from 8.15 – 8.45 am, then please email: Kaytee Parish [FCW@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:FCW@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk). She will be collating the information.

