



Wednesday 23rd September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Health and Safety of our Community – Important Reminders and Updates

You will of course be aware of the recent Government announcements and changes in response to the rising cases of Covid-19 and that we must all continue to remain vigilant. I am therefore writing with some important reminders and updates to ensure that our community is as safe as possible.

Face coverings

Although our staggered start and drop off arrangements aim to ensure that there aren't too many people in one place at one time, obviously our playground is still rather busy at the end of the day. In line with the other schools in our Trust, we are now asking parents to wear a face covering when entering the school grounds – either to collect your child at the end of the day, childminders bringing their groups into school or Reception parents who are dropping off children in the morning. Parents who have permission to enter the school building have already been asked to wear face masks. Staff who dismiss children from their classroom doors who are able to stay back from parents won't necessarily be wearing masks, but any adults who dismiss classes directly to parents (or need to have a quick word with a parent) will be.

Social distancing

Please be reminded that parents and other adults should remain 2m apart. We have been opening the double fire gates by the Year 1 shed (just along from the Radcliffe Gardens Gate) to ease congestion when parents leave the school site at the end of the day, but ask that you do adhere to social distancing when outside of the school gates please.

Harbury Road Morning Drop Off

We have been pleased to see that this area is far less crowded as our Year 6s, and indeed many of our Year 4s, do come down the path independently. But we do ask that parents waiting with children on Harbury Road, keep their children with them. Although the grassy area on the school



Harbury Road Carshalton Surrey SM5 4LA

Telephone 020 8643 4428
office@barrowhedges.com

**Pupil Premium
Awards 2016
Local Winner**

Primary schools with
published KS2 results



side of the wall is very inviting, cars are still driving down the Harbury Path in the mornings when parents are waiting so we want to ensure that the children are safe. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Hand sanitiser

Please be advised that we do have plenty of this and we ask that children do not bring their own hand gel into school. The reason for this is that to meet the requirements of COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health) we have to log which specific products children and staff use while they are in school. We have had examples of allergic reactions where children have used other products.

Playground equipment

Children, our own pupils, pre-schoolers or other siblings, should refrain from using the playground at afternoon pick up please. Thank you.

Late arrivals and forgotten items

As per previous correspondence, it is imperative that for the health and safety of all concerned, visitors to the main school office are kept to an absolute minimum. Parents should only arrive here if they have a pre-arranged appointment please. Please also be reminded that parents should return any forms etc via their child's bag. Unfortunately, we aren't able to accept forgotten items.

Letter from the DfE

Attached with this ParentMail is a letter sent by the Department for Education regarding covid symptoms/testing.

We have always wanted to have an 'open door' policy and obviously it is really important to us all that there are excellent channels of communication and positive home-school relationships. I am all too aware that letters such as this are rather dictatorial. I hope you will understand that after such a long time of school closure, we are all so pleased to have all the children back in school and so everyone's health and safety has to be our utmost priority. I would like to thank parents for all you are doing to support Barrow Hedges in this endeavour; I do recognise that for many, this has meant adaptations to your usual routines.

As promised, we have been able to review our provision of after school activities and so attached in the same ParentMail is a separate letter about this.

Kind regards,



Louise Wood
Headteacher