

Hamsey Community Primary School Cooksbridge

Skylark Federation
Executive Headteacher
Mr Stewart James BA (Hons).QTS

Head Of School
Mr Robert Newlands BSc (Hons). QTS

East Sussex County Council



Cooksbridge
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BN8 4SJ
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Website : www.hamsey.e-sussex.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

8 June 2020

We write to you today to update you on the first week of our wider opening to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils and to provide you with answers to some frequently asked questions.

Firstly, we would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers of pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 for their cooperation throughout this week, and particularly for sticking so stringently to the staggered drop-off and pick-up times. Your support has allowed us to ensure we are keeping our pupils safe. Going forward, please continue to arrive at school at the allocated drop-off/pick-up time for your child's year group. See below for a reminder:

INITIAL SCHOOL OPENING TIMES Monday to Friday 08.20-8.50	
Reception*	08.20 - 08.30
Year 1*	08.30 – 08.40
Year 6	08.40 – 08.50
Key Workers' Children	08.50 – 09.00
<i>*Specific times will be confirmed on first day of attendance, as our R & Y1 will be split into two groups.</i>	
Please ensure your child is brought to school promptly within the allotted timings above	

Class	Monday - Thursday	Friday
Reception*	2.30 – 2.40	12.40 - 12.50
Year 1*	2.40 – 2.50	12.50 - 1.00
Year 6	2.50 – 3.00	1.00 – 1.10
Key Workers' Children	3.00 – 3.10	1.10 – 1.20
<i>*Specific times will be confirmed on first day of attendance as our R & Y1 will be split into two groups.</i>		
Please ensure your child is collected from school promptly, within the allotted timings above		

Secondly, thank you to parents and carers supporting their children's learning at home. Although our teachers have enjoyed speaking to their pupils who remain at home, we are really missing our pupils in Years 2 to 5. Please rest assured that we are awaiting direction from the Government regarding their plans for the return of our pupils in Years 2 to 5. On this matter of further widening access to school for these pupils, we are being informed as and when you are. As soon as we receive any more information, we will communicate our plans to you.



Learning Together



~ Aiming High



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As from Monday 15th June, we will be able to offer additional lunch menu choices –

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese & Tomato Pizza				Fish/Fish Fingers & Chips
Jacket Potato – choice of fillings, cheese, tuna, baked beans	Baguette – choice of fillings – Ham, Cheese, Tuna	Baguette – choice of fillings – Ham, Cheese, Tuna	Baguette – choice of fillings – Ham, Cheese, Tuna	Jacket Potato - choice of fillings, cheese, tuna, baked beans
Baguette				Baguette

In addition, as this week has progressed, we have been asked a number of questions from parents and carers that we have compiled into a list of **FAQs** :

How will the lunch provision evolve as the weeks progress?

From Monday 15th June, we will be able to offer a wider selection of lunches. For now, children will continue to be able to choose from baguette options (ham, tuna or cheese). Children will be able to have lunch on a Friday even though we finish early for deep cleaning of the school site.

How are you planning to ensure teachers continue to interact with pupils at home?

Next week you can expect a phone call from your child's class teacher if your child is remaining at home. We are determined to maintain contact with our pupils in Years 2 to 5, who are at the forefront of our minds during these turbulent times. Going forward, in the longer term, we are investigating how pupils at home can interact even more closely with their teachers: we will update you on our progress toward this goal in due course.

In the meantime, how will you provide for those children who will remain at home?

The Department for Education guidance explains that schools have so far been able to offer high-quality and personalised remote education opportunities for children and families and that, now primary schools will be opening more widely, a greater number of staff will be needed to provide this face-to-face teaching at school. This means it may be more difficult to maintain the same level of remote education provision for pupils in the year groups not yet eligible to attend, or for those pupils in year groups who are eligible to attend but who themselves cannot.

For those pupils learning at home, we will:

- Provide **WhiteRose Maths** materials on the class blogs.
- Signpost families to the **Oak National Academy** resources for English.
- Encourage you to access the class **Take One Step overview** for your 'Topic' work.
- Arrange for teachers to interact with their pupils as regularly as possible over the telephone.

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Will my child be eligible for testing if they display symptoms of the coronavirus?

All children who are attending an educational setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario. The aim is to enable children to get back to school/childcare, and their parents/carers need not self-isolate any longer than is necessary, if the test proves negative. A positive test will ensure rapid action to protect other children and staff in their setting. Further guidance is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>.

Will teachers be wearing PPE?

Only for first aid, intimate care duties and if a child displays symptoms of Covid-19.

Will there be temperature checks for children?

Yes, we have digital thermometers to monitor children and staff temperatures.

Can a single adult bring their other children to drop-off?

Yes, as long as they do not interact with any other children.

Will staff be able to comfort children in the same way if they are upset?

Staff will not be able to touch children except for first aid or intimate care, but we will be able to comfort pupils verbally.

What will happen at break times?

The children have allocated playground/recreation ground spaces for them to play in at different times. No two 'bubbles' of children will be playing in the same space at the same time. When outside, the children will be able to interact more closely than inside, but they will not be able to hug each other or hold hands, and they will not be able to share equipment.

What are the plans for outside learning?

All groups will be encouraged to do as much outside learning as possible. This will be organised so no two bubbles are in the same place at the same time.

What measures are in place in the classroom for social distancing? Reception children learn through interaction: how will this be possible?

Older children will have an allocated desk, spaced away from others. Younger children will be taught and guided to social distance as much as possible, but we cannot enforce this. Little ones will be interacting with each other at times.

How will going to the toilet work?

The youngest children will have access to their normal toilets. Older children will operate on a one-in-one-out basis.

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How will you begin to plan for transition to the next year group?

We are planning for transition opportunities that adhere to the Government guidelines. We will update you when we have more detailed plans and when/if the Government measures are relaxed.

What happens if we are late for drop-off time?

You will have to arrive at 9.30am, once the last of the staggered groups has arrived for the day. This is to minimise interaction between groups.

Are children required to wear school uniform? Are they required to bring anything with them?

We do not expect children to wear school uniform. We ask that children bring as little with them as possible: just a water bottle, sun hat and suncream (the latter if it is a hot, sunny day).

We hope this has provided you with some extra clarity on these above points. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office at hamseyoffice@skylarkfed.education and your query will be promptly directed to us.

Kind regards,

Mr S James
Executive Head Teacher

Mr R Newlands
Head of School