



St Ippolyts C.E. (Aided) Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs. R. E. Peddie BEd(Hons) NPQH

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25th February 2021

Dear Parents,

Following the Prime Minister’s announcement on Monday, I am absolutely delighted to confirm that school will be reopening to ALL pupils from Monday 8th March 2021.

Over the autumn term, our risk assessments, practical arrangements and daily systems worked very well to keep everyone safe, so we will be returning to the same routines, with a few very minor amendments. Please take a moment to read through the following information which hopefully covers all you need to know.

Reminder of timings

These are the same arrangements as in the autumn term. We again ask that parents avoid ‘loitering’ for a chat and that you are prompt with arrivals and departures. We will be reverting to our autumn timetable of staggered play and lunchtimes to avoid mixing of bubbles.

	TIMES	DROP OFF & COLLECTION POINTS
Class 1	8.45 – 3.15	Class 1 gate at front
Class 2	9.00 – 3.30	Usual gate at back, main front doors at hometime
Class 3	8.45 – 3.15	Usual gate at back in the morning, top of the drive for hometime
Class 4	9.00 – 3.30	Playground for morning, top of the drive home time
Class 5	8.45 – 3.15	UKS2 yard
Class 6	9.00 – 3.30	UKS2 yard

IMPORTANT: Early Bird Club

There will be no Early Bird Club until after the Easter holidays. It will reopen on Tuesday 13th April.

Regrettably, we will need to increase the price of Early Bird Club when it resumes in the summer. The price has never increased since we first set up the club several years ago, but with increased staffing costs over that time, and a decline in the number of children using the club, we have been running it at a significant financial loss. Unfortunately, this is a loss that school can no longer afford to subsidise.

From summer 2021, the cost will be £4.00 per day (£20 per week).

Bookings for the summer term will open on School Gateway from Monday 1st March.

After school clubs

There will be no after school clubs until the summer term.

Uniform

Children will need to wear school uniform. Usually at this time of year we are still in winter uniform until after Easter, when we switch to summer uniform. However, if your child has outgrown their winter school clothing and you have summer uniform ready to go, they can start wearing this now. Please don't buy new winter uniform just for this three week period!

Hair, nail varnish etc

Please ensure nail varnish, hair colours etc are removed for the start of school. Please also remember to have longer hair (below shoulders) tied back off the face.

PE kits, water bottles, pencil cases

Children will need to bring back their PE kits (indoor and outdoor) and pencil cases. Please also make sure they have a water bottle, as the water fountains continue to be out of bounds.

School dinners

School dinners will resume as normal.

Homework

We will not be setting formal homework until after Easter; our focus will be on getting the children settled back into school routines (and we think parents as well as children will need a break from home learning!) However, children will still have access to Bug Club, Times Tables Rockstars, Nessy etc. There is also a selection of work for each class on the school website class pages which you are very welcome to use if you would like to.

Medicines and inhalers

Please remember to return any inhalers and ongoing medicines, **clearly labelled**. If there has been no change since you completed the green form at the start of the school year, these can just be handed in to the class teacher. If however, there has been any changes, or indeed new medication, you will need to complete another form; please contact Mrs Nichols on senco@stipps.herts.sch.uk with any queries.

Face Coverings

These will be worn by staff at morning drop off, home time, in communal areas and in any contact with you as parents. We ask that parents continue to wear face coverings on the school run please.

You may have heard in the media about children being required to wear face coverings in class – *this relates to secondary schools only*.

Loaned laptops / Chromebooks / Tablets

If your child was loaned a device for remote learning, these should be returned to school once we are fully open from March 8th.

In the event of your child needing to self-isolate (for example if someone in the household has symptoms, tests positive, or there is a school bubble closure), we will reissue devices to children who need them.

Home Learning exercise books, maths and English workbooks

Children should bring in their exercise books and workbooks that they have been using for Home Learning when school resumes on March 8th. Please also bring in any '**View from my Window**' art work for our display (named clearly).

Hygiene measures, illness

As in the autumn, we will be implementing strict hygiene controls and enhanced cleaning regimes.

Once again, we ask that if your child is unwell, you err on the side of caution and get them Covid tested. It is tempting to believe that 'this is over' once school fully opens, but we are not out of the woods yet and must remain vigilant to possible symptoms.

In the event of your child needing to self-isolate for Covid-related reasons (for example if someone in the household has symptoms, is awaiting test results or tests positive), we will upload work onto Google Classroom for them to access from home.

Contact with teachers, newsletters, other information

We will continue to use the class email accounts as a key source of communication with you. The newsletter and any other letters or parent information will continue to come via email. The class teachers will check their emails periodically during the day but may not be able to respond immediately as they will be with full classes, teaching all day. For anything urgent, please go via Mrs Rule or Miss Webb in the school office.

Once again, I would like to thank you all for your partnership, cooperation, and support during this time. Your efforts with the home learning have been invaluable and I know this has been an especially tough time for those of you trying to juggle work commitments with your child's school activities.

Whilst I believe all children in school have coped **incredibly** well with the remote learning since January, there really is no substitute for being in school, playing, learning and laughing with their friends; it will be wonderful to have our school family back together once more.

I look forward to seeing you all on March 8th.

Kind regards,



Mrs RE Peddie
Headteacher

