



**The Federation of
Hackbridge Primary School and Spencer Nursery School**

Headteacher: Mrs E Walford
Deputy Headteacher: Miss N Robins



Hackbridge Primary School
Hackbridge Road
Wallington
Surrey
SM6 7AX
Telephone: 020 8647 7974
Fax: 020 8669 3762

Website: www.hackbridgeprimary.sutton.sch.uk
Email: office@hackbridgeprimary.sutton.sch.uk



Hackbridge Primary School
London Road
Mitcham
Surrey
CR4 4HS
Telephone: 020 8647 7974
Fax: 020 8669 3762

Website: www.hackbridgeprimary.sutton.sch.uk
Email: office@hackbridgeprimary.sutton.sch.uk

31st August 2021

Dear Parent and Carers

The start of the new school year

We hope that you have enjoyed your summer holidays and that the children are looking forward to the new school year, as we are.

Years 1 to 6 return to school this week on Thursday 2nd September 2021. Normal start and finish times will apply.

Nursery and Reception will join us a bit later this term – parents of children in those year groups should refer to the information that they have been sent by the school regarding their child's start date.

Start of the School Day

Hackbridge Corner: Gates open at 8.35am and close promptly at 8.45am.

London Road: Gates open at 8.50am and close promptly at 9.00am.

Children will enter through the usual gates in the mornings.

End of the School Day

Hackbridge Corner: Infants finish at 3.10pm, KS2 finish at 3.15pm.

London Road: Infants finish at 3.25pm, Year 3 finish at 3.30pm.

(Nursery classes should refer to their own session start and finish times.)

Changes to government guidance since the summer term

As you will know, over the summer the government's roadmap has changed significantly and so has the guidance for schools. As a result, there will be a number of changes to arrangements in school this term.

- There will no longer be a requirement to wear face masks on site, although adults are welcome to do so if this makes them feel more comfortable.
- We do ask that parents/carers leave the site promptly once they have dropped off or collected their children, as well as limiting the number of adults from one family that come on site at any one time. We would ask all adults to remain mindful of social distancing as we do have some vulnerable members within our school community.
- Class bubbles will no longer be in place, so children from different classes and year groups will mix more for learning and at playtimes and lunchtimes.
- It is our intention to return to "normal" playtimes and lunchtimes, with all children returning to eat their lunch in the school hall. With this in mind, you will no longer be able to specify which meal your child has for school dinners each day, as Caterlink will return to a full menu.
- As previously advised, children will not need to bring their PE kit to keep in school as this will be worn to school on PE days. Your child's teacher will let you know when these are for your child by the end of this week.
- Ventilation in the classrooms and hand hygiene will remain paramount. Children will continue to wash their hands regularly with soap and water throughout the day using the sinks in the classroom, bathroom areas and playgrounds.

Uniform

All children are expected to wear full and correct school uniform from 2nd September 2021. Here is a link to the [uniform policy](#) and [a visual guide](#) which was sent out in July so that you can see clearly what items are required by different year groups.

Water Bottles

Children should bring a water bottle containing plain water only into school each day.

Fruit

Children in Nursery to Year 2 will be provided with a free piece of fruit via the government school fruit scheme each day and **must not** bring in any fruit from home.

Children in Year 3 to 6 may bring a small piece of fruit to consume at playtime, if they wish. No other type of food/snack is allowed.

Communication with the School

Please continue to make contact with the School Office by telephone or email.

Brief notes to your child's teacher can be written in your child's Home-School Contact Book if it is appropriate to do so (otherwise please email the School Office and this will be shared with the teacher) – the Home-School Contact Books will be checked each day.

Symptoms of coronavirus, PCR tests and self-isolation

If you suspect that your child has symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, loss of taste and/or smell or a high temperature), we ask that you do not send them into school and arrange a PCR test the same day. Please inform the school of their absence in the normal way.

NHS Track and Trace, **not the school**, are now responsible for liaising directly with parents to identify close contacts of any child who tests positive and agreeing self-isolation arrangements where necessary. Being in school with someone who has tested positive does not necessarily mean being identified as a close contact, which should mean that now whole classes of children will not necessarily have to self-isolate and learn from home.

The new guidance states that individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 and they are fully vaccinated or are below the age of 18 years and 6 months. Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test.



We are hopeful that the changes to some of the arrangements will mark the beginning of more normality for life back in school, but please note these could be subject to rapid change if the government guidance or infection numbers dictate.

Please refer to our school website for the most up to date version of our coronavirus risk assessment. We will also be uploading our outbreak management plan to the website on the 1st September. This will explain the arrangements that will be put in place if there is an 'outbreak' (significant sustained rise in the number of positive cases in school) at any point.

This last 18 months have been challenging for everyone, but we are all approaching this new academic year with optimism and enthusiasm and look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emma Walford".

Emma Walford
Headteacher