



Hiltingbury Schools
Hiltingbury Road
Chandlers Ford
Eastleigh
SO53 5NP

Saturday 2nd January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a relaxed break with your children.

Following the government announcements during the break and moving into tier 4 restrictions, we wanted to share the latest information we have from the Department for Education (DfE).

Covid-19 has particularly affected some parts of the UK, and so schools in these areas will remain closed for the first weeks of January. **Hampshire is not one of these areas, meaning that we will re-open as planned on Monday 4th January 2021.** Secondary schools will bring back students in phases and will commence regular antigen virus testing of their students and staff.

The DfE states that testing is not currently required in primary schools because infection and transmission rates for primary pupils are significantly lower than secondary.

For further information about tier 4 restrictions, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-4-stay-at-home>

Parent and community support for our schools, during the Autumn term, was strong and we are grateful to everyone for this. As we commence the Spring term, we ask that you continue to maintain the care you all showed before Christmas. Safety arrangements remain as before:

- Children learn and play in their year group bubble - no mixing with other bubbles.
- Designated drop-off/collection times – please plan your journey so that you arrive to the school site at your allocated time, not before. This particularly applies to older children who independently walk to school.
- Please continue to wear masks/face coverings when dropping / collecting your children and encourage older siblings collecting to do the same, as this reduces transmission of the viral load.
- Please ensure you keep and maintain safe distances from other people and adhere to the one way system on the Infant school site.
- Ensure you continue to keep the schools updated if your child or any of your household develop Covid-19 symptoms.

We will also continue to provide Before and After school club for all children across both schools, starting back as normal on Monday 4th January.

Over the last few weeks, the government has made many last minute changes to their guidance and so we will write to you if, within the next few days, there are further changes to the above advice. In the meantime, on behalf of all the Hiltingbury Schools team, may we wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you and your children back with us on Monday 4th January 2021.

Kindest Regards,

Phillippa Longman
Headteacher
Hiltingbury Infant School

Zoe Loosemore
Headteacher
Hiltingbury Junior School