



Hamsey Green
Primary School



In A Nutshell

Headteacher's Newsletter Spring Term 2022 Week 1



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to school and to 2022! I do hope you were able to relax a bit and managed to enjoy the holiday.

We were so excited to have the children back— especially as reflecting back, were shocked to be in another lockdown with limited pupils on site and we opened to a thick blanket of snow! The children have all settled back into routines brilliantly. I had the pleasure of walking (without crutches!!) around the whole school. It was great seeing the nursery children playing outside in the garden investigating the cold; Reception thoroughly enjoying hearing a story; Year 1 enjoying Art; Year 2 and 3 focused in their maths lessons. Year 4 were coding their own chatbot using Scratch. The chatbot was able to ask their name and



give a personalised response. They also discussed the safety with using online chatbots and staying away from phishers! Something I am sure you are all aware which is hitting at social media at the moment. Year 5 were eagerly starting their Egyptian topic, thinking about what they really wanted to learn about—mostly about mummification, pyramids and the gods and goddesses; and Year 6 were deep in discussion about the Holocaust and what humanity can learn from History.

Please take time to read the changes to guidance sent out this week on pages two and three. Thank you for your patience and adaptability as guidance comes out.

Stay safe

Mrs Mace

Plan B of the COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan –Hamsey Green and Acorns Nursery UPDATED IN PURPLE

The Government is clear on the critical importance of not disrupting the education of children and young people and the Government will prioritise keeping all education and childcare settings open. **Further advice has come out this week for schools and Nationally.**

Attendance

School attendance remains mandatory and all the usual rules continue to apply. Enabling children and young people to attend their education setting regularly continues to be a national priority. As usual, we are only able to grant leaves of absence for pupils in exceptional circumstances through the absence forms from the office.

Children and young people previously considered CEV should attend their setting and should follow the same [COVID-19 guidance](#) as the rest of the population. In some circumstances, a child or young person may have received personal advice from their specialist or clinician on additional precautions to take and they should continue to follow that advice. **There will be advice coming out for those CEV from 5 years up to be vaccinated.**

Face Coverings

These are already worn by staff and visitors in communal areas.

Wrap around provision

The Primary and Acorns will continue to offer their usual before and after-school activities, including wraparound childcare. These activities provide valuable childcare for working parents and carers and promote the wellbeing of children and young people. **Letters have been sent home today for clubs. For those children who have not been able to attend school today, a copy of this has been enclosed with the newsletter.**

Working from home

Office workers who can work from home should continue to do so **from Monday 13 December**. We expect to continue to provide face-to-face teaching in the Primary and Nursery. The Government has stated that Education and childcare leaders will be best placed to determine the workforce required to meet the needs of their children, pupils and students. Education and childcare leaders will need to consider whether it is possible for specific staff undertaking certain roles to work from home, while minimising disruption to face-to-face education and care. Following expert clinical advice and the successful rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine programme, people previously considered to be particularly vulnerable, clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), and high or higher-risk are not being advised to shield again.

We are very lucky that we have been able to manage the impact of staff absence Covid-19 at the start of term!

Testing

We strongly encourage all those involved in education and childcare settings to continue regular testing. As of Tuesday 11th January, if you test positive on an LFD and DO NOT have symptoms, a PCR is no longer required (this will be reviewed). You are still required to report a POSITIVE LFD result via <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. Please notify the school with this conformation in order to authorise absence. If a person displays symptoms then a PCR test is required still. Thank you for keeping us informed if your child is able to break isolation on day 8 following two consecutive negative LFD on day 6 and day 7.

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Plan B of the COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan –Hamsey Green and Acorns Nursery continued

Settings are strongly encouraged to ask parents, guardians and other visitors to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test before entering the setting. **Please help us keep our school community safe.**

ISOLATION

If a person has a negative LFD on day 6 and day 7, they can be released from isolation on day 8.

If you are identified as a close contact of Covid-19 and are vaccinated, you will need to undertake daily LFD's for 5 days. For those who are not double vaccinated (and over 18), as a direct contact you are required to isolate for 10 days.

Parking

We have been made aware that some of our families have recently received penalty notices for parking outside the school. Penalty notices are issued by the Council and we are unfortunately unable to comment or advise on this issue. The zig zag lines are marked clearly as are the times where parking is not allowed on these markings. **Please park considerably around the neighbouring properties to the school. We have had some complaints recently, of inconsiderate parking at drop off and pick up times for school and other activities. Some of our nursery parents have also noted parking issues, making it difficult when walking with their young children.** We do have slightly staggered starting times to help alleviate this issue. Thank you for your assistance.



Upcoming events

- **Wednesday 12th January—Final Reception 2022 parent tour (spaces available)**
- **Saturday 15th January—Primary school application deadline**

Attendance:

Whole school: 92%

Communication this week

- **Spring term club letter**
- **Yrs 1 & 2 Crystal Palace after school club letter**

School Uniform

We are depleting our school stock of uniform. Please check to see what items of uniform you may need and please order through us in the first instance. Anything that is unavailable through us, please purchase through Price and Buckland directly. Price and Buckland will refer you back to us if its stock that we hold. <https://price-buckland.co.uk/school-finder/?school-search=Hamsey+Green+Primary+School>

Please be aware that any items ordered through Price & Buckland to be delivered to the school will take longer than if you pay for p&p for home delivery.



Acorns Nursery have enjoyed welcoming the children back and hearing all about their Christmas celebrations!

This week, the children have been busy settling back into nursery and exploring our outdoor areas on these cold and frosty days!

Absences & Sickness

If your child is absent from school and you leave a message on our absence line. Please let us know their full name, class and reason; including any symptoms they may be displaying. We do need to hear from an adult each day a child is absent for safeguarding reasons. Please do not bring your child to school if they have been sick during the night. If your child has been sick or has an upset stomach, children must be off school for 48 hours following the last episode. Thank you for your co-operation.

School Dinners

If you have booked a school dinner and then send in a packed lunch for your child/ren. Please can you advise the office that you no longer require it. Thank you.

We are collecting used printer ink cartridges. Please bring them and put them into the recycling box in the office. We are unable to recycle toner or laser cartridges. Any cartridges recycled, helps the school to raise some money. Thank you!



We are regularly asked by parents, carers, grandparents and friends of the school as to how you can support the school to continue to provide a rich, wide-ranging curriculum and a high standard of education. If you would like and are able, to support the school and your child's education, please buy one of the books on our Amazon wishlist. This will arrive at school a few days later and be added to the children's non-fiction book box or class library.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3GIZF85XRY4MG?ref_=wl_share

COVID testing

Schools are being encouraged to ask their community to continue to regularly test using lateral flow tests. They can be ordered online [here](#).

Please see update guidance on previous pages.