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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are now nearly at the end of term I'd like to share a few details of our plans for September, based on the most recent government guidance on schools returning, but stress to all our families that the picture is subject to change. We anticipate being able to give more detail in a letter to parents and share our Risk Assessment around the end of August which should be able to take into account the latest science and any changes to the local or national picture.

At the moment:

- We expect all year groups to return to school on Monday 7th September, except Reception who will return in small groups week beginning 14th September. (Individual Reception parents will have been told their own start times). The exact arrangements for time and location of entry to school will be provided in the August letter.
- Arrangements for snacks and lunches are being carefully considered and will be shared in August.
- We are working on plans and Risk Assessments to ensure that, as far as possible, classes within year groups can mix but not those between year groups. These year groups will be the new 'bubbles'. The exception to this maybe our Care Club provision. Thank you to all of you who previously used Care club pre COVID 19 for completing a questionnaire. We will be able to provide an update with this provision soon.
- In the case of a confirmed case or symptoms of COVID 19 in a particular bubble, it is still the case that pupils may be sent home and be asked to remain at home at very short notice.
- We are planning to continue to teach every subject with the same amount of time allocated as usual but teachers are working on curriculum plans which take account of any loss of time and any guidance from national testing agencies or examination boards to ensure that breadth and depth is maintained. However, the timetable for the first few weeks will be slightly different, there will still be daily literacy and numeracy but they will be shortened allowing for more time for Mental Health and Wellbeing, PHSCE and daily Circle Time. There will be time for the children to talk about their different experiences during lockdown and their worries and fears. Emotional and mental health support as well as academic support will be offered once any needs have been identified.
- Where pupils are obliged to remain at home for any period of time due to quarantining (individual or collective) then distance learning materials will be ready for them to pick up and/or online learning will be accessible for them to complete at home.
- We are currently looking at our swimming provision and when swimming will safely be able to start again. Risk Assessments are being written and we are awaiting further guidance. Teachers will receive updated swimming training and poolside resuscitation in the beginning of the Autumn Term in readiness for swimming to start again.
- Full attendance is expected by all pupils and we will work hard with individual families to overcome any difficulties in this area.
- Deep cleaning will continue both during and at the end of the school day.
- School writing equipment etc will not be shared between pupils. We would ask that all children bring to school a small named pencil case for their own use only, which contains pencils and pencil crayons. For those children unable to bring a pencil case we will make up individual packs.



Leadership & Management Standard

- Uniform will not be compulsory until a review has taken place towards the end of the first half term. This is to allow for ease of daily washing of clothes and to acknowledge that financial pressure may be an issue for more families than usual at this time.
- School trips can take place as long as they are not residential and, over time, we aim to return to a full programme of trips and visits within guidelines.
- Extracurricular activities and care club facilities will be provided as far as guidance allows but more information will follow. Clubs inside will not take place during the first half term. Further detail of this will be given in August.

Please remember that on Friday 17th July the school will close before lunch.

Home learning

Home learning from class teachers will soon finish, ensuring that both staff and children have a break from school over the summer. I would like to thank all the staff involved in ensuring that home learning has continued throughout these strange times.

If you want to carry on some core learning with your child, we would always encourage plenty of reading, sometimes with your child reading, but just as importantly, times where you can still read to/with them, to really encourage a love of books.

Any number games are ideal in using maths knowledge, so any game involving dice or counting spaces etc are great to use. Times Table Rock Stars and Numbots would also be ideal. Practical writing, perhaps as a summer scrapbook of memories can be a very enjoyable activity, and one in which others could contribute to as well. This is where pictures, descriptions, diary entries, poems or any manner of other things can be included and is great for the family to look back on in the future. There are also lots of websites which have interesting activities for children such as BBC Bitesize and National Geographic for Kids.

Reports

Most parents/carers will now have received the report from the class teacher on their child. If you have not received it yet, please contact the school office. Our admin team has been amazing in everything they have done in school, and communication between school and home as well.

I would like to stress that the arrangements mentioned are headlines only now and that much detailed planning will continue to take place over the coming weeks with full details shared before the end of August. More important than the detail, however, is the excitement and pleasure we all feel about being able to see all our pupils and families again and for Hazeldene to return in the way we know and love. We all do the jobs we do because we love to help our children learn and to thrive. We are all so much looking forward to welcoming everybody back and to working with you in a more normal way again as well as to welcoming a number of new children and new colleagues to our Hazeldene family. I am just very sad I will not be able personally say a goodbye to our year 6 children on Friday, but hopefully when everything is calmer in the new year, as I have said before, we will all meet together to have a final celebration. Thank you all for your patience in realising that we don't yet have the answers to every question but our assurance remains that we will do everything possible to make the return in September as smooth, happy and safe as it possibly can be.

Finally, I would like to finish with some wonderful news. Mrs Chapman had her baby on the 9th July. She had a beautiful baby boy, Isaac Orion Chapman, weighing 8lb 6oz. I know you will share with me the happiness that this news has brought to our Hazeldene family.

On behalf of everyone at school I wish you all a very happy and safe summer and send our fantastic year 6s to their new schools in September knowing that their new schools will be very lucky to have them. I will miss them all.

Yours Sincerely



Helen Ward
Head Teacher
Hazeldene School