

# Whitehill Junior School

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Dear Parents and Carers

Following on from our much awaited, and very successful return to school, there are a few things I would like to draw your attention to and ask for your support with. There is also a change to the way we will be dealing with a particular first aid incident to tell you of.

Firstly, thank you so much for all your kind words of support both before, during and after school today. They are appreciated and I do share them with the staff team.

## Arriving in the Morning

The enthusiasm to return to school resulted in nearly all of our pupils arriving at 8.35am this morning. Whilst we would have normally embraced this, I would ask that you do, where possible, make use of the extended morning which means pupils can arrive up to 8.55am. This would just spread the flow out a little across the playgrounds.

Although our classrooms are not open until 8.35am if you do arrive a few minutes early, do please come onto to the playground rather than waiting in line on the pavement. You took me at my word yesterday but we have the space and so let's use it.

Where possible, please limit the number of adults bringing children to school. I appreciate today was special and we had whole families celebrating the return but again, by limiting adults to one per child we will significantly reduce footfall.

## End of the Day

It was clear this evening that the zones I had in my head and on my plan, for parents of different year groups to stand whilst waiting for pupils, weren't as demarcated as I thought. We will try and improve this tomorrow evening, again to ensure enough social distancing between adults whilst waiting.

Thank you for clearing the playground as quickly as you did today. This certainly helped.

## One-Way System

We are going to enforce the only one-way system in the school grounds from tomorrow. This will again prevent pupils and parents having to pass each other on the slope or stairs between playgrounds. We have put up signs and used arrows on the floor.



Effectively it is 'down the slope, up the stairs'. We will make exceptions for medical needs etc. but would ask that you follow this system. The pupils will also be using this route when moving from outside to in and did very well during the day.

Staff will be outside on duty in the morning reminding you. Again, thank you for your support with this.

### **Bumped Head Notice**

The change I mentioned in my introduction is to the way we report to parents that a child has bumped their head in a playground or sporting accident.

If your child 'bumps' their head and has received first aid in school that doesn't require immediate medical attention, we will now email you directly rather than send home with the child, a hand-written form. The email will inform you that a 'bump' has occurred and will also include an attachment providing details of things to watch out for, just in case.

They will also have a red wristband attached so that all staff are aware the child has been injured. This won't fall off like the stickers we used to use.

Of course, we will never take any chances and if we are concerned that the injury may be more serious, we will seek immediate medical assistance as well as phoning you.

### **My Blog and Twitter**

For those of you who are new to the school, each Friday I write a blog highlighting the many things the pupils get up to each week. I will send you a link via SchoolComms when it has been published. These blogs are a great way of finding out what we have been getting up to and also, what we can look forward to in the week ahead.

Twitter is also a great way of finding out what we are getting up to each day with photos and news. If you haven't applied to follow, I would highly recommend following [@whitehilljunior](https://twitter.com/whitehilljunior).

Thank you again for all your support.

Kind regards,

*Steve Mills*

Steve Mills  
Headteacher

