

# POUND HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL

Crawley Lane, Pound Hill,  
CRAWLEY, West Sussex,  
RH10 7EB



Tel: 01293 447000

Mr A T White, Headteacher

e-mail: [office@poundhilljunior.org.uk](mailto:office@poundhilljunior.org.uk)

---

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you have enjoyed a positive summer break and have found some opportunities to do some of the things that you and your family enjoy.

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September with the school gates opening from 8.10am. The bell will ring at 8.30am for years 4, 5 and 6 with new Year 3 pupils starting at 9am on this day. Please do not send your year 3 children in before this time or wait with you child if you have a child in another year. They will then start at 8.30am from Tuesday. Please remember that the playground is not supervised before 8.30am on any day.

- ✓ 8.10am – all school gates (front gate, back gate and PHIA gate) are opened and pupils (and parents) can enter the site
  - The playground is unsupervised
  - Stay behind the goals
  - No ball games or use of large play equipment
- ✓ 8.30am – bell rings and teachers collect classes
- ✓ 8.40am to 8.45am – Registration

## School Day

- ✓ 2.50pm - all school gates (front gate, back gate and PHIA gate) are opened and parents can enter the site
  - Stay behind the goals
  - No ball games or use of large play equipment
- ✓ 3.00pm – Teacher will bring their classes to the playground

Everyone is keen to get back to some sort of normality and colleagues and I feel optimistic about the forthcoming Autumn Term. We will continue, however, to be mindful of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Whilst there is cause to be upbeat and positive, this also needs to be tempered by a pragmatic and reasonably cautious approach to day to day life at Pound Hill Junior School. As ever, senior colleagues and I will communicate with you in a transparent and proactive manner and I hope, therefore, that this letter is both helpful and underscores this approach.

As you would expect, we are continuing to update and amend our Risk Assessment in light of current government and Public Health England guidance. Full details can be found below, along with a link to the operational guidance that schools receive from the Department for Education:

- [Pound Hill Junior School Risk Assessment](#)
- [Schools Covid-19 operational guidance](#)

Whilst we intend to run school as normally as possible, it is important that staff and children adopt a careful and sensible approach to day to day life in school. We will continue to monitor the Covid-19 situation carefully and reserve the right to 'step up' or 'step down' appropriate measures to ensure everyone's safety and wellbeing.

At the start of term, the following will be in place:

- A normal school day with enhanced procedures to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission
- The continued adoption of strong hygiene and cleaning procedures
- Careful use of Public Health England advice
- Continued support for those staff and students who are clinically extremely vulnerable or who have household members in this position – whilst your child is expected to attend school, if you have any particular concerns you are welcome to contact the School Office – [office@poundhilljunior.org.uk](mailto:office@poundhilljunior.org.uk)
- Face coverings will not be worn by staff members when in class or working with the children. Whilst not compulsory, any pupil or member of staff wishing to wear face coverings in communal or shared areas will be fully supported.
- Class teachers will support all the children to understand and meet the Covid-19 expectations.

Expectations regarding positive cases and close contacts:

- Children up to the age of 18 years and 6 months do not have to self-isolate if they are in contact with someone who has a positive test. Instead, they can attend school as normal but must take a PCR test. If the PCR test is positive then the child will be advised to isolate.
- Adults who are double vaccinated also do not have to isolate if they are in close contact with a positive case. They DO need to take a PCR test. If the PCR test is positive then they will also be advised to isolate.
- Schools no longer have any responsibility for contact track and trace, but we will monitor any potential 'outbreaks' and respond appropriately.

Vaccinations:

Currently 16-18 year olds have been advised that they are entitled to a vaccination. This is currently not the case for younger children. There is, however, some speculation in the media that guidance from the Joint Vaccination Committee will change. We will obviously keep you informed of any plans provided by the government.

As mentioned, we continue to look to the future with optimism, but the truth is, nobody is certain how events will play out in the upcoming weeks. This BBC news article provides some useful information in what I consider to be a balanced and helpful manner.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-58334835>

In light of all of the above, Pound Hill Junior School will continue to adopt a positive and proactive approach to your child's safety and wider educational opportunities. We are really looking forward to starting the new term afresh with brilliant teaching and learning and extracurricular opportunities.

With your support, I am confident that we will meet and overcome any challenges that arise.

Yours sincerely

Mr A White  
Headteacher