



Headteacher: Mrs S Lockwood
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs L Maybury

Holmesdale Infant School
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September 16th 2022

Welcome Back



Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new reception children who have all started school this week. This is the start of an exciting learning journey for them all. Our Year 1 and 2 children are now in their second week and are settling well, adjusting to their new classes, teachers and rooms. Never underestimate how tiring this is for all the children and we are all here to support them (and you) during this time.

During the first term PSHE is a focus both in planned lessons and in informal interventions. As a school we are nurturing and supportive helping to make our children feel safe and valued. Children are encouraged to talk about their thoughts and feelings to the adults in their classrooms who they know will listen. Staff support children to build friendships helping them to learn how to care for each other and show kindness. Throughout their time at Holmesdale children are encouraged to develop the many skills needed to help them navigate through school and life and to build resilience to cope with the many challenges life will offer. Our aim is that all our children are happy, confident people, who love life, school and learning.

As a school we celebrate individuality and successes both in class and in our celebration assemblies. This year we are going to share photographs on Parent Hub of the children who have been awarded in celebration assembly, where permission has been granted. We are resending some permission forms to families who haven't replied previously. Please look out for these in your child's book bag. Celebration Assembly will be on a Monday this year.

Below is further information about some of the systems and requirements in school. Staff are usually around at drop off and collection and will happily discuss any small day to day issues that you may have. You will also soon have the opportunity to come into school and meet your child's teachers. We are really looking forward to a 'normal' academic year for all the school community.

Yours Sincerely

Sarah Lockwood
Headteacher





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THE SCHOOL DAY

All classrooms doors open at 8.50am. Children must be in school by 9.00am. After 9.00am you must enter school via the main entrance.



School finishes at 3.15pm, all children are collected at their classroom doors. **DURING THE FIRST HALF TERM (UNTIL Friday 21st October)** all the new reception children can be collected between 3.00pm and 3.15pm.

The staff find it really helpful when parents queue as most of you do. It helps them to ensure that the children have gone home safely. We would politely ask the Willow parents to queue along the fence and down the main entrance path to help with this (staff will be around to help guide you).

Please be punctual and help your child to arrive on time for school. A late start can cause anxiety and of course vital learning time is lost.

PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS

Please inform the class teacher/office in the morning when you drop off your child if they will be going home with another parent or carer. If this person is not known to school you must provide a password. Please be patient with staff if they need to check arrangements as they are following safeguarding procedures.

PARKING

Please do not park in the staff carpark at any time unless you have a special permission. Please park considerately i.e. not on grass verges, not blocking driveways or entrances to school, not on the yellow zigzag lines and not in the private parking bays on Hassop Close. There is a carpark by the playing field next to Stonelow Junior School that can be used. This option relieves congestion on The Avenue. These requests are to help keep everyone safe and to strengthen our already positive relationships with the local community.

ILLNESS, APPOINTMENTS, ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If your child is ill, needs to leave school or arrives late for any reason including dental or medical appointments you **MUST** let the school office know.

There are many childhood illnesses that you may encounter. Below are some links to help you and guidance as to whether your child needs to be off school or not.

[https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance on infection control in%20schools poster.pdf](https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance%20on%20infection%20control%20tools%20poster.pdf)





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<https://derbyshirefamilyhealthservice.nhs.uk/our-services/5-10-years/childhood-illness>



SICKNESS

To stop the spread of sickness and diarrhoea bugs, children must not return to school until **48 hours have passed since the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting**. Please see our policy on the school website.

<https://www.holmesdale.derbyshire.sch.uk/Diarrhoea%20&%20Vomitting%20Illness%202019.06%20V02.pdf>

We appreciate your understanding with this.

MEDICINES

We cannot give any non-prescribed medicines. You will need to fill in a medicine form at the office giving permission for a dosage of any prescribed medication.

PLEASE REMEMBER DO NOT BRING NUTS OR PRODUCTS CONTAINING NUTS OF ANY TYPE OR QUANTITY INTO SCHOOL. WE HAVE CHILDREN WITH SEVERE NUT ALLERGIES. THANK YOU VERY MUCH

NO DOGS

We have a no dog policy on our school site please. Do not leave your dog tied up at either school entrance please. This is for health and safety reasons. Some of our children and grown-ups are frightened of dogs.

SCHOOL MEALS

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to a free school meal. Children will choose what they are having for lunch during morning registration. If your child would like to swap from packed lunches to school meals or vice versa, the kitchen requires two weeks' notice.

PE KIT

All children come to school wearing their PE Kits on PE days. Please wear white tops and dark shorts/joggers/ and school sweatshirts.

OUTDOOR CLOTHING

Please ensure your child wears the appropriate clothing for outdoors depending on the weather. Coats should be waterproof and have a hood. Reception children need waterproofs and wellingtons in school. **Please name all clothing.**





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WHAT TO BRING EACH DAY

A NAMED water bottle and book bag each day. Packed lunch bag if required. Please no toys in school.



OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT

Please ensure you supervise your child/ren, at all times before and after school when on the school grounds. We politely ask you not to let the children use the outdoor areas directly outside the classrooms and nursery. School staff are not responsible for your children before school starts and when school finishes.

VOLUNTEERS

We will be asking for volunteers in school soon. This will be on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons between 1.30pm and 3.15pm. Please look out for further information

2022-2023 DIARY DATES

The yearly diary of school events is also attached to this message. We are so excited to be able to plan and look forward to all of these activities and events after the last three years of Covid-19 interruptions! Any events in green are ones that parents and carers will be invited to. We have booked several trips and will be sending information soon about payment plans. We have worked hard to plan all the events through the year with the different companies and agencies involved. We will do our utmost not to change these dates however we cannot promise this. Should any dates change we will give you as much notice as possible.

Thank you for reading all the above information.

