



Wednesday, 8th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back!

This is just a short note to say welcome back to school for the Autumn term. A special welcome to our new pupils and their families.

Staffing

We welcome some new teachers: Miss Johnston in Year 6, Miss Leivers in Year 6 and Mrs Pulman in Year 1. We also welcome Miss Sansbury who has joined the team in Orry's. We are delighted they have joined the team here at HBN. However, we are also sad to say goodbye to some staff members. Over the summer Mrs Carole Jones and Mrs Paula Willis have left HBN. We thank them for everything they did for our school and children and wish them well in their new ventures. Miss Lucy Jones, unfortunately, remains off school ill. Mrs Lee is covering her class in Year 6.

COVID

Schools and University College Isle of Man (UCM) have **proportionate protective measures** in place this term to reflect the Island's current COVID-19 situation. Here at HBN we have a risk assessment in place that includes implementing regular hand washing for staff and pupils, ensuring all areas are well ventilated and staff taking regular lateral flow tests. For further details, I refer you to the guidance and the FAQs on the COVID website which can be found here: <https://covid19.gov.im/general-information/back-to-school-safely/>

We remind you that if your child feels unwell or develops any COVID-19 symptoms, they should not attend school and stay at home. You should notify school as soon as possible and request a PCR test by going to the website or calling 111.

As the virus continues to circulate in the community, schools will not be required to inform parents and guardians if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 as schools are already operating with mitigation measures in place. The only exception will be clinically vulnerable students whose parents will be told if the school is informed.

School Communication

In order to help the environment and streamline our procedure we are endeavouring to be as paperless as possible. Therefore, most letters and school communication will now be by email. If you would prefer paper copies, then please contact Mrs Walmsley in the school office by Friday, 17th September.

Pick up and drop off

As part of our Covid risk assessment we are asking parents to drop off outside in order to reduce footfall through school. However, volunteers are still welcome to come in and we will provide PPE for them. Therefore, if you want to volunteer to help in school, please speak to your child's teacher.

There will be a more detailed letter and dates for the school year to follow in coming days but, for now, I wish you all a happy start to term.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Ashley
Headteacher

