



5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to confirm that we are opening tomorrow in line with government guidance. In the last week government guidance has changed at a rapid pace. Thank you for being so patient and supportive whilst we have deciphered the government messages and relayed the implications for the Nursery.

Please take the time to read the following information;

School Risk Assessment

The school risk assessment (which will be uploaded to the school website by the end of the day) has been reviewed in light of current developments. This has been seen by the school governors and during yesterday's Inset Day staff fed into some amendments to ensure that they feel as safe and confident as possible.

Changes made since the last version include:

- Only visitors essential to Health and Safety to be permitted onsite
- All meetings with external professionals to be conducted remotely
- No book bags to come into school to minimise resources going between home and school
- Remove malleable resources
- ALL windows and external door to be open at all times (please ensure that your child wears suitable layers of clothing to school)
- Updated references to current guidance (links to all reports/guidance referenced are at the end of the risk assessment.)

Parental Choice

We understand that some of you will not feel comfortable to send your child to Nursery in the current climate. We fully support parental choice regarding attendance and respect your right to decide whether or not to send your child into school.

All we ask is that you inform us, by email to admin@heathlane.herts.sch.uk, if you decide not to send your child in as this will save the admin team calling and checking on your child's absence.

You are welcome to continue to keep your child off for as long as you deem appropriate and to return them to school as soon as you feel comfortable to do so. Please provide us with enough notice should you wish your child to return.

Keeping the School Safe

To support us in keeping the school community safe we ask the following:

- Only one adult brings your child/children onto site (**please do not bring secondary school aged siblings**)
- Follow the one way system in place
- Follow social distancing guidance-the yellow marks outside the school and in the playground should help
- Leave the site as soon as you have dropped off and refrain from any gatherings in the car park
- Wear a mask/face covering at all times when anywhere on the school site
- Keep your child at home if they display **ANY** signs of being unwell

Whilst we no longer exchange books in school we will keep the book shed replenished should you wish to swap books yourselves. Please follow the guidance in the shed to keep yourself and others safe. Using the book shed is entirely optional.

To support the safety of the school community some staff will be working remotely. Please bear with us if it takes a little longer to answer the door, answer phone calls and reply to non-urgent enquiries.

I finish this letter by thanking the staff team here at Heath Lane. They have shown amazing resilience in the past week and in deed since March 2020. We are incredibly lucky to have all of our staff committed to keeping the Nursery open.

Stay Safe.

Kind regards

Hayley Yendell