



The Valley Federation of Edale C of E and Hope Primary Schools NEWSLETTER - 17.7.20

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we are at the end of the school year, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the children, parents, staff and governors for their support and well wishes in these difficult times.

The past few weeks, we have seen the majority of children returning to school at least part time and this has helped us establish routines and safety measures that we can continue with in September. We have uploaded a new Risk Assessment which we will use; it is very similar to current safety measures. Social distancing measures will be in place in and around the school but not between children in their own 'bubble'. Bubbles will not mix throughout the day and at the clubs, they will be kept in class groupings so as not to mix bubbles.

Questionnaire - We have made a questionnaire available for you to complete to give us feedback on how we've been doing during this pandemic. Please do complete it as it will give us an idea of which things are going well and, more importantly, what we can do better.

Attendance - DfE guidance states that school attendance will again be mandatory from the beginning of the new academic year. For parents and carers of children of compulsory school age, this means that the legal duty on you as a parent to send your child to school regularly will apply.

However, a small number of pupils will still be unable to attend in line with public health advice because they are self-isolating and have had symptoms or a positive test result themselves, or because they are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19). If your child is unable to attend school for this reason, you should talk to the school about what support is in place in terms of remote education.

For all absences, please phone the school on the day of absence before 9.15am and put in writing via e-mail to admin@hope.derbyshire.sch.uk or info@edale.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Communication - I shall be based at Hope Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday pm; at Edale Wednesday am, Thursday and Friday. I am contactable at either school Hope 620541 or Edale 670280, or via e-mail headteacher@hope.derbyshire.sch.uk or headteacher@edale.derbyshire.sch.uk. When I am not on site, Mrs Winfield will continue to deal with queries at Hope and Mrs Garmeson at Edale. If there are things you wish to speak about related to your child, please speak to their teacher first.

Class Bubbles - The children will be with their own classes throughout the day as follows:
Swallows at Edale - Reception to Year 4 with additional teaching support each morning for the older children for maths, English and science.
Puffins at Hope - Reception, Years 1 and 2
Owls at Hope - Years 3 and 4
Hawks at Hope - Years 5 and 6

New Reception - We shall be welcoming 8 new Reception children into school on the first day in September and Mrs Coyle from the preschool will be on hand to help them settle.

Planned Activities

- All the children will need a PE bag in school from the first day with shorts, t-shirt and trainers/plimsolls. They will need a jumper/leggings for cold weather.
- Outdoor Education lessons at the school site. Puffins will start in the Autumn Term on a Tuesday afternoon. The first session for them is Tuesday 8th September. They will need wellies/outdoor shoes, outdoor clothes and a waterproof coat that you don't mind getting muddy! Puffins need to come to school in their uniform with their outdoor gear in a bag.
- Swallows will be having Wednesday afternoons at Edale Island starting Wednesday 9th September.
- Unfortunately, the first few weeks we will not be having individual music instrument lessons or the school band practices. We are awaiting further guidance on when we shall be able to start instrument lessons at both Hope and Edale and restart our school band.
- Tai Chi for all the children will commence straight away
- Swimming will not be starting until at least January

Staffing for September - At Edale we have said goodbye to Mrs Carole Hemsley. We have sent her our best wishes and cards but intend having a party when guidance allows it. There are no staff changes at Hope.

Dropping off and picking up - We will be social distancing around the school so we ask parents to not gather or to enter the school building. Edale school will welcome children in from 8.30am and they will be dismissed at 3.30pm. Hope school will open the doors at 8.45am, officially starting at 9am. This way children can be staggered in and to help, Puffins parents will use the outside door by their classroom and Hawks/Owls will use the main door. At the end of the day, teachers will stagger their children coming out.

Uniform - Children will be required to wear the full school uniform when we return to school in September. Uniform can be ordered online and the school will get a contribution for each item bought if you buy online:

For Hope uniform www.myclothing.com or www.schooltrends.co.uk

For Edale uniform <https://www.headmasters-schoolwear.co.uk/product-category/school-uniforms/edale-c-of-e-primary-school/>

Clubs for September - There will be After School Clubs every day after school from 3.30-5pm. We are just in the process of finalising which days the different clubs are on. They will be starting the first day of term on Thursday 3rd September and run to the end of term. Each session will cost £2.50 and the children will be provided with refreshments. Permission notes will come out at the start of the term.

Breakfast Club will also be daily from 7.45 to 8.45am in The Nest and will commence the first day of term. We will provide healthy food options e.g. cereals & fruit etc. for the children and exercise with different sport activity such as football, cricket, rugby, netball, hockey and lots more fun activities. The cost of the Breakfast Club:

If your child requires breakfast, we can provide this at a cost of £5 per day.

If your child doesn't require breakfast then the cost is just £3 per day.

This is a club that children may join at any time in the term, attend certain days or just attend on the odd occasion - we are very flexible.

Dinner money - Please be aware that under national funding all infants (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to a free school meal. If your child will be Year 3 to Year 6, they will need to pay for their dinners at £2.20 a day in advance at the beginning of the term (cheques made payable to Derbyshire County Council or cash in an envelope stating the name of your child). If you feel you may be entitled to Free School Meals due to being on benefits, then please apply on the Derbyshire County Council website, this will increase the funding to our school.

Available support for parents

- DfE helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:
Phone: 0800 046 8687
Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm.
- Childline: 0800 1111
- Samaritans: 116 123
- Kooth: <https://www.kooth.com/> (fee, safe and anonymous online support for young people)

Again, thank you to the whole school community for your support this year. We hope everyone has a lovely summer and we shall see you back on Thursday September 3rd. Good luck to all our leavers. We shall miss you all.

Please do remember that you can e-mail myself or governors with questions and comments - johnpayne@edale.derbyshire.sch.uk or askagovernor@hope.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Miss S Fisher

Executive Headteacher

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01433 670280



01433 620541