



Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Mr A Clarke
Head Teacher

www.denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk

Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to you all, and in particular our new year 3 parents and carers. I hope you and your children are feeling as excited as we all are, about the return to school on Monday. It would be remiss of me to think that there aren't a few nerves jangling a bit, after the long summer break, but I can assure you that we are happily chomping at the bit to welcome your children into school on Monday. We will do everything we can to ensure that your child settles quickly and becomes the best that they can be.

Please, let us know where this might not be the case, for those that have got to know me over the last year, know that I am very approachable and very responsive to making sure we solve problems quickly and fully. I will often be out on the playground before and after school and can always be reached by phone or the school email. I look forward to meeting you all in the fullness of time.

We wrote to you at the end of term to share important information about the expectations for the children's return to school in September and I am pleased to send the confirmed details in this letter.

UPDATED RISK ASSESSMENT & PROCEDURES:

Firstly, in light of further guidance from the DFE, I wish to draw your attention to our modified risk assessment. This can be found on the school website in full here:

<https://www.denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Covid+News+%26amp%3B+Resources&pid=122> .

We will continue to take a cautious approach to ensure compliance with the statutory elements which focus on effective infection protection and control, however, the guidance allows schools to expand what we can offer, so we will be removing 'bubbles', which offers more access to the range of after-school clubs, school trips and events, explained further on in this letter. We will still encourage as much virtual contact from visitors, but we will also be actively looking to physically involve you in school life.

Other key changes in our operation plan include the removal of responsibility for contact tracing from schools to NHS Test and Trace, and that close contacts (including those in the same household) are not required to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, the contacts will be advised by NHS Test and Trace to take a PCR test. In the event of a substantial increase in positive cases in a setting, it is possible that additional measures would need to be taken in consultation with Public Health England.

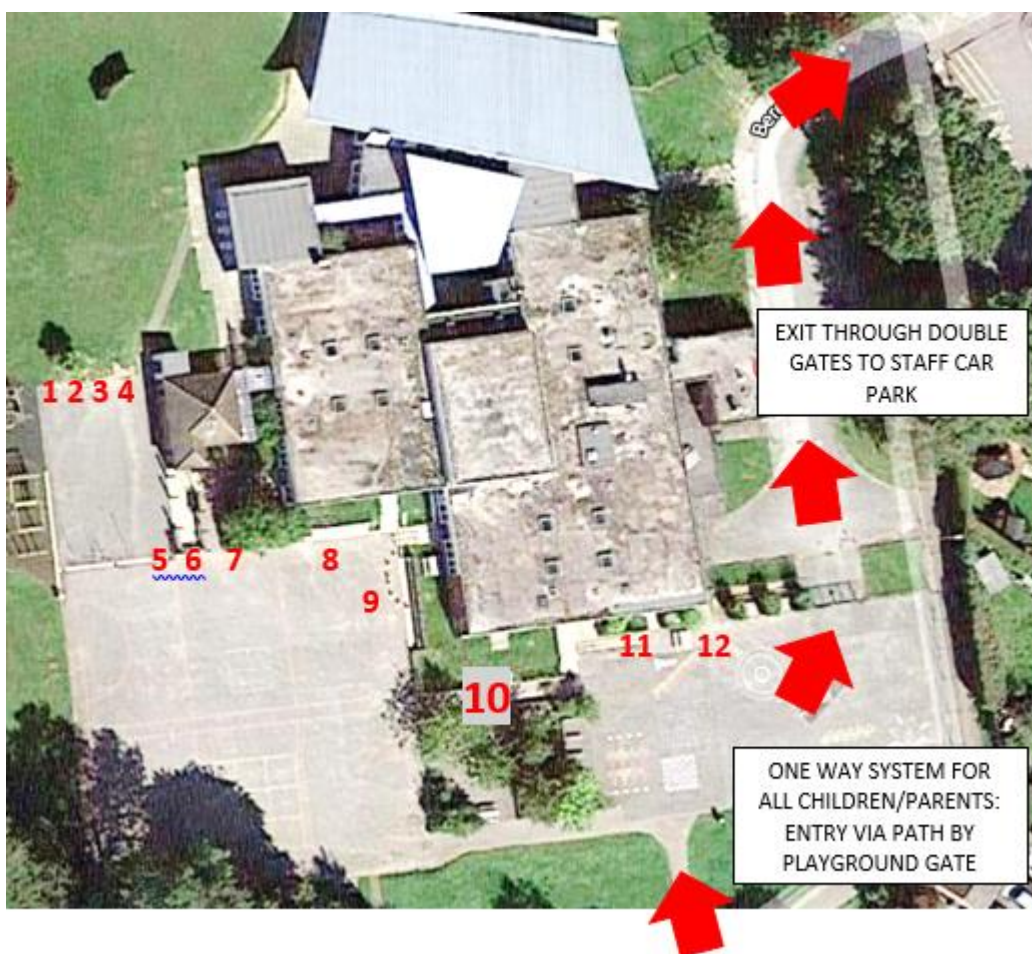
What I ask of my staff and all of you, is to support us and please remain vigilant in the event that children display any of the 3 key symptoms, in order to help minimise the risk to our whole school community. These remain:



- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

THE SCHOOL DAY:

- **School start time:** Gates will open at 8.30am and a whistle will be blown at 8.40am to signal children to meet their teacher on the playground for registration in class at 8.45am. If your child arrives after this time, we are obliged to mark them as late and they will have to enter through the main entrance.
- We will continue to operate a one-way system, entering the playground through the single gate accessible via the pathway next to the car park. If you and your child look out for their class teacher, we will help you find their class line, so that the class teacher can lead them into class – see map below for guidance.



CLASS MEETING LOCATIONS	
1	South Africa
2	Kenya
3	Tanzania
4	Nigeria
5	Japan
6	India
7	Bhutan
8	Sri Lanka
9	Galapagos
10	Guatemala
11	Brazil
12	Costa Rica

- You will then exit through the staff car park double gates. Mr Clarke and Mrs Howard will be outside to greet your children each day and also at the end of the day to make sure your children leave safely.
- **End of School:** School will finish for all children at 3.15pm.
- **Lunchtime:** Lunches will continue as they have for all children this year, with school lunches for those who have ordered them, being delivered by class LSAs to the classroom and we will continue with staggered times for upper and lower school classes. Hopefully, as we return to a sense of normality, we will eventually return to the hall for lunchtimes together. Please remember lunches need to be paid for at the Junior School and cost £2.50 each. We have the same menu programme as the Infant school and details can be found on our website.



- ****If you are new to the school, we will send you a SCOPAY code as soon as possible. This will allow you to pay online for meals, uniform and trips, plus book parent evenings etc. **** In the meantime we can accept cash in a named envelope, or a cheque made payable to Denmead Junior School.
- **Snacks:** If your child would like a snack for break time, please pack this in your child's lunchbox, or in a small plastic bag so that they can access during the morning. This should only be fruit or vegetables please. Once again, we hope that we can re-introduce the school Tuck Shop in due course, where children can purchase healthy snacks.
- **What to bring:** We would encourage children to bring as small a bag as will accommodate their belongings. Many children will just need to bring in their lunchbox and snack if needed and a plastic reading book bag (for year 3 & 4) which will be provided, where their home reading book, the reading record and any paper homework can easily be stored and brought easily to and from school. We would also encourage your child to bring in a filled WATER bottle, which can be re-filled during the school day.

UNIFORM – including P.E. kit:

We want your child to take pride in their appearance and to wear our school uniform to be a member of our school community. From September, DJS school uniform expectations are as follows:

Tops	School sweatshirt/cardigan with the DJS school logo*. White shirt/blouse/polo top (<i>optional with school logo</i> *).
Trousers/shorts & dresses/skirts	Grey or black. No leggings/black jeans or tight fashion trousers. In the summer, gingham dresses in blue/white may be worn.
Socks	Plain white, grey or black
Shoes	Any sensible black shoes (not sandals, boots or trainers), with closed toe and flat heel.
P.E. kit – to be worn on days timetabled below	Shorts: Black or navy Polo top: Royal blue with DJS school logo* Trainers: Sensible plain pair A pair of socks: White, grey or black Tracksuit: Black or navy bottoms and top

**logo items available from the school office or online via SCOPAY & delivered to your child to take home.*

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday	Bhutan	Kenya	Japan, Tanzania	
Tuesday	Brazil	Costa Rica, Sri Lanka & Kenya		India
Wednesday	South Africa	Costa Rica	Tanzania & Galapagos	Nigeria
Thursday	Bhutan	Sri Lanka	Galapagos	Nigeria & Guatemala
Friday	Brazil & South Africa		Japan	Guatemala, India

- **Hair** - Long hair must be tied up with a plain blue, grey, black or white hair tie (not large bows e.g. Jo-jo bows). No extreme haircuts e.g. shavings. No coloured hair dye.
- **Jewellery** - For safety measures, we ask that children do not wear jewellery to school. Ear studs and watches are permitted but should be removed for P.E. and Games or covered with their own surgical tape.
- **Make up** - Make up and nail varnish are not permitted and children will be asked to go to the office to have it removed.



SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION:

The school office will be open from 8.20am – 4pm to deal with any queries in person or by phone. The office telephone number is 02392 252735 – option 1 to report an absence or 2 to speak to the office team and an answerphone is available at all times. The school email is admin.office@denmead-jun.hants.sch.uk

Labelled drop off boxes are available outside the main entrance to deliver forgotten coats, books etc. Please help us pass these on quickly, by ensuring items are labelled with full name and class.

INSET DATES:

This week: Sept 2nd /3rd
Fri 22nd Oct (before half term)
Fri 18th Feb (before half term)
Mon 27th June (stand-alone)

RESIDENTIAL DATES:

Y5 Calshot 19-21 Oct 2021 – **Payment due by end of August**
Y3 Calshot 6-8 April 2022 – Balance due 10th January 2022
Y6 Tregoyd 4-8 July 2022 – Balance due by end of April 2022

ADDITIONAL KNOWN KEY DATES (details to follow!):

Year 5 Bikeability: W/C Monday 20th September
School photos: Friday 24th September
Lower School Trip to Fishbourne: Year 4 - Monday 27th September & Year 3 Tuesday 28th September

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES:

We will be extending our provision of clubs and activities at school over the coming weeks and I am pleased to share the following details so far:

From next week:

Forest School:

The current after-school groups will resume on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. For any queries with this, please contact Zoe Halford directly via 07980 213590 or email zoe1@live.com We are pleased to share that we will be offering a Friday session shortly, so please do look for the communication about that next week as places are offered on a first come, first served basis.

Friday 10th will see the return of our band music lessons, delivered by **Rocksteady**. If you would like to book a place or find out more details about the sessions which are delivered within the school day, please go to their website: <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>

Skilful Sports Football:

This non-competitive after school football session is open to Year 3, 4 and 5 from next Friday 10th. We will send booking forms out next week. Places must be booked directly with the organisers please.

From week commencing 13th September 2021:

Hampshire Music Service will be returning to offer peripatetic music lessons in guitar and violin. This is open to all children and again, a letter with more details will come out next week.

We will also continue with last summer's **Monday competitive football teams** – please look for more details for the children who were already attending.



We will welcome back **Sama Karate** on Tuesdays from 3.20-4.20pm which is open to ALL children. Again, forms will be available to send out next week with further details.

Upper school children will be able to apply for **Fencing** club or **STEM** club run by staff on Friday afternoons – again please look for further communication about these and more clubs in the pipeline.

We know this is a lot of information to take on board, but hope that too much is better than not enough and that this answers all your initial queries.

In the meantime, have a great weekend and see you bright and early on Monday morning.

Kind regards,



Mr Andy Clarke
Head Teacher

