



11th September 2020

Springhead Newsletter

Thank you!

Can I thank you for being so supportive with trying to keep to the school systems as the children have got back to school.

The children have settled in really well, have got used to the new routines and teachers are telling me that they are already seeing the children make progress.

The start and end of the day are the times when most adults are on the school premises and this is the most difficult time to manage.. Thank you for trying to keep to the routines.

They key points are:

1. **Only come onto the site at your child's drop-off and collection time (if you have more than one child, come to the school at the earliest drop-off time and collect them at the latest time).**
2. **Only one adult bring the children to school—to reduce numbers of adults on the school site.**
3. **Keep 2m away from other parents.**
4. **Avoid congregating around the classroom doors and leave the grounds promptly.**
5. **Unfortunately it is not possible to communicate with staff at the classroom doors, please leave messages via the school office (Tel. 01782 973845 / email office@springhead.staffs.sch.uk)**
6. **To reduce congestion outside the school, please avoid parking outside the school, walk to school or park further away (Freeport are happy for you to use their car park).**

Drop-off and collection times:

Arrival:

- 8:45 - 8:50am – Year 1 and Year 2
- 8:50 - 8:55am – Year 4 and Year 5
- 8:55 – 9:00am – Reception and Year 3
- 9:00 – 9:05am – Nursery and Year 6

Collection:

- 3:05 – 3:10pm – Year 1 and Year 2
- 3:10 – 3:15pm – Year 4 and Year 5
- 3:15 – 3:20pm – Reception and Year 3
- 3:20 – 3:25pm – Nursery and Year 6

Year 6 Secondary School Transfer

A letter went home today about applying for a place at a secondary school. Normally, each school holds an open day and I would recommend you attend as many of these meetings as possible so that you can choose the best school for your child. Due to Covid-19, the arrangements may be different this year. You can access information about admissions on the following website:

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions

All applications **must** be received by the 31st October. This is a very important decision for parents—if you need more advice about the process, please contact me. Children who live outside Staffordshire will receive a letter directly from their local authority.

School Photos—Friday 9th October

Academy Photography will be taking photographs on Friday 9th October. Siblings who are in school on the Friday will have their photos taken together during the day.

Sorry, no birthday sweets.

In the past, children have often brought sweets to school to be given out at home time. This is not possible at present as we want the children to bring the minimum in from home and we do not want to pass items around households.

I know this will disappoint some children.

Free School Meals

Is your child entitled to free school meals? A separate letter has been sent home with the criteria.

Have you got reading books, violins and trombones at home from last year?

We never got a chance to collect these at the end of last year. If you have still got any of these at home, please return them to school.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have got a vacancy for a Parent Governor on the school governing body. The Governors have an important role in shaping the direction of the school. There are usually 6 full governors meetings per year plus some committee meetings. Please contact me if you would like more information about the role and to get a nomination form. If you would like more information about the role of a school governor, please speak to me. The deadline to express your interest is next Tuesday (15th September).

What to do if your child shows symptoms of Covid-19

The NHS says that the main symptoms are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

If your child has any one of these symptoms:

1. They must not come to school, inform the school
2. Get a test to check whether it is Coronavirus as soon as possible
3. Stay at home and do not have visitors
4. Other members of the household will need to stay at home until you have the results
5. Keep the school informed

If your child gets any of these symptoms at school, we will contact you so that you can collect your child and arrange to get them tested.

We recognise that these symptoms may also be symptoms of other illnesses - but it is important that they get tested for both your child's safety and that of others.

Children and face-mask guidance

Can I remind you that the current guidance is that children in primary schools should not wear facemasks in school. Face masks have limited impact on the person getting the disease—although they can stop a person spreading it. Children under the age of 12 struggle to use facemasks effectively (they keep fiddling with them / taking them on and off which can increase the risks) . It would be very difficult for them to wear them all day. If, for medical reasons, a child should need to wear a face mask we would need a letter from the G.P. explaining why it was needed, and this would then become part of a care plan. This policy is based on government guideline and will remain in place until the guidelines change.