

**Junior School**

**Infant School**

01275 843969

[office@highdownschools.org](mailto:office@highdownschools.org)

[www.highdownschools.co.uk](http://www.highdownschools.co.uk)



**High Down Schools**

Believing | Achieving | Learning for life

**High Down Schools**

Down Road  
Portishead  
North Somerset  
BS20 6DY

**Executive Headteacher**

Mrs A Cowan

20<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWSLETTER**

#### **Summer Works**

Over the summer holidays our site team worked hard on improvements to the site. They did a lot of decorating around the school, carried out repairs on outdoor play equipment and built shelving and created some fun murals outside Year 2 amongst many smaller maintenance jobs.

We have had pupil toilets refurbished in Year 3 and Year 4, and have also refurbished the after school club kitchen.

#### **Covid 19**

A new risk assessment was published for the September return and is available to view on our website. Whilst many of the previous restrictions have been relaxed, there is still a focus on hand washing and sanitization and on ventilation.

If your child is displaying symptoms - a new or continuous cough, high temperature or loss of smell or taste – please keep them off school and in isolation pending the results of a PCR test (a lateral flow test is not sufficient). Children displaying symptoms at school will be taken to the isolation room and parents will be contacted to pick them up as soon as possible.

#### **Considerate Driving and Parking**

We work with our PCSO and North Somerset Council to monitor driving and parking issues around the school. They have asked us to convey the following requests to parents to help ensure our school community stays safe:

- Please be considerate when turning into The Downs or other side roads and do not undercut other vehicles
- Please do not park on the right of The Downs – there is plenty of space further down to park on the left. Generally, please park considerately and not on pavements etc

- Please ensure your children are crossing the road safely, and sticking to the pavement rather than walking on the road

### **Travel Plan**

A big thank you to the majority of parents who are safely walking their children to school or parking considerately in accordance with the school travel plan, which is available to view on the schools' website. If you are still unsure about any aspect of road safety, please contact the schools' office on the number above.

We have bike and scooter racks in the Junior area and scooter pods by the Infant main entrance which we would encourage pupils to use. Bikes and scooters must be wheeled, not ridden, on school premises please, and helmets to be worn. Bikeability training is due to take place in the Juniors and we hope to be able to access scooter training for Infant pupils.

If you are interested in joining the school travel plan committee we would be pleased to hear from you.

### **Staff Car Park**

Please note that the car park is for staff parking only and may not be used by parents for dropping off or picking up children at the start or end of the day apart from in cases of necessity, agreed in advance with the school (and for After School Club pick up). This is for the safety of our pupils.

### **Mobile Phones**

Mobile phones should not be used while on the school grounds. The reasons for this include:

- Safeguarding issues with camera phones etc
- Health and Safety issues with people not looking where they are walking or not supervising their children
- Inhibition of language development for pupils due to lack of communication

Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Dogs**

Please do not leave dogs tethered and unattended by the school gates while you pick up your children. If the dog cannot be left at home, please arrange to meet your (junior) child at the gate so you can remain with it. Dogs should never be brought onto school premises, even if carried.

### **Food Allergies/Intolerances**

If your child suffers from an allergy or intolerance and you have not already done so, please could you complete and return an Aspens allergy/intolerance form to the school office together with a doctor's note. These can be posted in the red post boxes in the school lobby.

### **Nut Free Lunchboxes**

Please could you ensure that your child's lunchbox does not contain nuts or nut-related products, as we have children and staff at school with severe allergies.

### **Medication in School**

A reminder that where it is appropriate for medication to be administered to pupils by school staff during school hours, a request to do so must be accompanied by written permission. Our Policy for

Supporting Children with Medical Conditions (available on the schools' website) sets out the procedure and also contains a template permission form.

### **Infection Control**

With the norovirus season approaching could we take this opportunity to remind you that if your child develops symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting you should keep them off school until they have been symptom free for at least 48 hours.

### **Photography/Video Recording at School Events**

We hope to be able to hold some school events this year, and it is natural that when your child is performing or taking part you may want to take photos or some video footage of him or her in action. However, there are some parents who do not want images of their children in the public domain – in some cases for personal safety reasons. Please, therefore, could you refrain from publishing any such images and footage on social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and You Tube, and keep them for private viewing.

Please check your privacy settings to ensure you are not inadvertently sharing images or footage.

Thank you for helping us to keep all of our children safe at school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A Cowan".

Andrey Cowan  
Executive Headteacher