



5 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will know, lockdown procedures have become more stringent from today, as outlined in the Prime Minister's announcement over the weekend.

I want you to know that I have been prepared for this event since re-opening in September and our robust Risk Assessments and COVID-safe procedures remain in place. They have been written to keep us all as safe as possible as the virus spreads and are always published on our website so you can see what we do that is so effective.

Due to the continued excellent work of our dedicated staff we are able to operate as before in ways to keep us all as safe as possible. I need you to know how incredibly stressful this is for many of our teachers and support staff - yet they come into work each day with a positive attitude, doing their very best for all our children.

Our pupils have all been amazing and continue to follow our COVID procedures with ease. I would also like to mention that, as a parent community, you have been excellent with your ongoing support in maintaining distancing, keeping to times and being fully engaged in being alert for symptoms, testing and isolating as required.

Please do remember that this also includes **staying 2 metres apart from people you do not live with when on the school site or on your journey to and from school.**

We have been fortunate so far to be able to remain fully open. I strive every day to do everything possible to keep it that way to ensure our children continue to receive the education they deserve.

I am sure things will get harder before they get better, but I know that together we can get through this and make Great Hollands one of the successes of these difficult times.

Please keep supporting what we do, please keep up the distancing both at home and school and please keep the positivity up for our children and our whole school community.

Below is a reminder of some of the new regulations from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Yours sincerely

**Richard Ferris**  
**Headteacher**

## **Please find below some of the new regulations from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November:**

### **Stay at Home**

This means you must not leave or be outside of your home except for specific purposes.

These include:

- For childcare or education, where this is not provided online.
- For work purposes.
- To exercise outdoors or visit an outdoor public place – with the people you live with, with your support bubble or, when on your own, with 1 person from another household.
- For any medical concerns, reasons, appointments and emergencies, or to avoid or escape risk of injury or harm - such as domestic abuse.
- Shopping for basic necessities, for example food and medicine, which should be as infrequent as possible.
- To visit members of your [support bubble](#) or provide care for vulnerable people, or as a volunteer

### **Staying safe outside the home (social distancing)**

You should minimise the time spent outside your home and when around other people ensure that you are two metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

Remember: Hands – Face – Space

- Hands – wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds.
- Face – wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.
- Space – stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors)

### **Meeting with family and friends**

- You must not meet socially indoors with family or friends unless they are part of your household - meaning the people you live with - or [support bubble](#).
- You can exercise or visit outdoor public places with the people you live with, your support bubble, or 1 person from another household.
- You **cannot** meet in a private garden.

Outdoor public places include:

- parks, beaches, countryside,
- public gardens (whether or not you pay to enter them), allotments
- playgrounds

### **Going to school**

The Government will continue to prioritise the wellbeing and long-term futures of our young people and will not be closing schools.

It remains very important for children and young people to attend, to support their wellbeing and education and help working parents and guardians.

Senior clinicians still advise that school is the best place for children to be, and so they should continue to go to school.

Schools have implemented a range of protective measures to make them safe.

## Travel

You should avoid travelling in or out of your local area, and you should look to reduce the number of journeys you make. However you can and should still travel for a number of reasons, including:

- travelling to work where this cannot be done from home
- travelling to education and for caring responsibilities
- hospital, GP and other medical appointments or visits where you have had an accident or are concerned about your health
- visiting venues that are open, including essential retail
- exercise, if you need to make a short journey to do so

If you need to travel, we encourage you to walk or cycle where possible and to plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport. This will allow you to practise social distancing while you travel.

Overnight stays and holidays away from primary residences will not be allowed. This includes holidays abroad and in the UK.

The full regulations can be seen here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>