



9 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I'm sure you are excited as all children return to school this week following the latest lockdown. This gives us hope that we have started our journey out of the current situation and towards more restrictions being lifted later in the year.

Thank you so much for your endurance and resilience during these challenging times. You have supported online learning whilst managing your working lives and home responsibilities - none of which could have been easy. We cannot thank you enough for all the hard work you have put in to support our school community in Hammersmith and Fulham over the past year.

Our priority now is to ensure schools remain safe places to learn for your children and our school staff. We acknowledge that gaps in learning have arisen during this lockdown which will also need to be addressed. We are working with our schools to ensure they have the resources they need to deliver a robust curriculum over the next weeks and months to come.

The pandemic is not yet over, and we must remain vigilant as lockdown eases and continue to follow the government guidance of 'hands, face and space' to keep everyone safe. This is particularly important when taking and collecting your child from school. If you have any concerns about your child's return to school these should be discussed with your child's school to find ways of supporting.

The biggest difference to be aware of on the return to school is that all schools will now be testing teachers with lateral flow tests twice a week, with secondary schools also testing pupils. If required, households in Hammersmith and Fulham may also book tests at one of our walk-in centres. More details can be found [here](#). Children below the age of 12 should not be tested using Lateral flow tests, however if as a parent or carer you are concerned that your child may have coronavirus symptoms, please request a PCR test from the NHS website.

We really hope your child enjoys being back at school and reconnecting with their friends.

Keep safe and well.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J.A. Parnell'.

On behalf of:

Jan Parnell  
Director Education

&

Linda Jackson  
Director COVID-19 response & recovery