

PAPER C



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School life during Covid-19 Haylands Primary School

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School closure period

Key worker and vulnerable children provision

A total of around 40 children used the provision with approximately 25 attending each day.

Haylands remained open for the entirety of the closure including all of the school holiday and bank holidays. 8.45am - 3pm.

This gave a real sense of security to our families and the office was always staffed enabling parents to easily get in touch.

We also ensured that we kept in regular contact with the staff not able to be in school and the local authority through regular telephone calls with our LLP.

'All staff were clear on provision for children during COVID and procedures/ government updates were discussed regularly with staff. This reduced any anxieties about changes and helped us to get on with our jobs-teaching the children and keeping them feeling happy and safe. There is a real sense of team work across the school' – Haylands SENDCO

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Children at home - managing the provision of learning

Initially all children given 'work packs' for the first two weeks [until the Easter Holidays].

Subsequently, work and learning tasks were set on Google Classroom, however the school still produced packs for pupils who did not have access to on line learning.

Communication was maintained with families, via Dojo and Tapestry by class teachers on at least a weekly basis.

We also maintained phone contact, calling some families daily, twice a week or weekly as appropriate.

A 'learning record' system was set up to track communication and work completed. This was useful as it helped us to review our 'welfare list' regularly.

'I am extremely pleased that a huge focus was placed on home schooling with teachers providing high quality planning and relevant tasks so that pupils do not feel disadvantaged from working at home'

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Children at home – welfare checks

Haylands put into place a 'ring around' service to see how families were generally. All families were contacted at least weekly. We also undertook home visits if we had been unable to speak to the family on the phone.

Families known to be more in need had more regular contact with the Family Liaison Officer.

Families who were suffering the effects of poverty were issued with Food bank vouchers and deliveries from school of some essential food items.

This enabled us to consider how well families were coping and to sign post or take actions if families struggled.

A weekly return was completed for our vulnerable families and this supported triangulation of need with our LLP and Children's Services.

'Thank you to you all who are making this awful situation so much more bearable..you really are pulling out all the stops' Year 1 parent

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Return to school from 1st June 2020

We welcomed back Year R, Year 1 , year 6, some preschoolers and continued to provide for an ever increasing amount of children from Key worker families.

In total, 186 children are attending school. This represents approximately 43% of our school population.

Presch 15
 Year R 40
 Year 1 31
 Year 6 42
 Key worker / vulnerable 58

We are running 14 bubbles, using all available staff.

We planned as necessary to minimise the risk of Covid-19 transmission. We continued to provide online learning and even recorded assemblies to keep a sense of community.

Many of our children with Education Health Care plans have also now returned to school, enabling them to continue with their education.

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The Parents' views

Throughout all of this Haylands has been brilliant, well done to all the staff in these unprecedented times. Everything has been explained in great detail, Harry has been well looked after in all aspects of returning to school. Thank you.

I think this is brilliant. What you have done to keep our children safe. Well done guys. Obs the little ones may not remember all the time but it is great to prepare them for what is expected.

Thank you for making this so easy for the children to adjust... fab staff! poppy cant wait to come back. x

As much as the decision to send my son back is breaking my heart, he has just watched this and was so so happy to see his teacher and school. It has shown how fab you guys are and I feel that bit better that he will be in safe hands! X

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Return to school for Sept 2020

We are ready to go.

All staff are back.

Timetabling / start of day/ breaks etc. have been worked out. The risk assessment has been updated.

We have had 'bubble picnics' for the children who have not been in school. We have created transition booklets and welcome videos to try to support the children in preparing to return.

Challenges we are facing

The unknown!

How many children will return? What will their experiences have been like? How we manage the recovery curriculum in 'fast time' whilst still maintaining the emotional support we are giving.

However the overwhelming team spirit we have allows me to be confident that we will overcome any difficulties we may be presented with.

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Views of the Staff

Throughout this difficult time we have all pulled together in real "team spirit" to support each other and our school community. This has been made so much easier due to great leadership and organisation, as well as consideration and support of ALL staff. Our fantastic pupils have adapted to the "new normal" brilliantly and we couldn't be prouder of them. This in itself is a reflection of the leadership and desire of staff to always do their very best for children under their care.

The school has been really well-organised. Children have felt safe and happy and parents have been well-informed by the clear and regular communication that has been provided. The children have been happy and excited to return to school and provision has been put into place to ensure that their well-being is the school's priority.

Haylands has benefitted considerably from the forward thinking, clear direction of our amazing, relentless, Duracell-Battery Bunny Headteacher. Staff and children alike have been superbly supported. Knowing that clear systems have been put into place has enabled us all to run smoothly with as little anxiety and disruption as possible. In uncertain, stressful and tiring times, we couldn't have been in safer hands and we have been able to offer a haven of security to parents, children and all members of staff.

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Finally

School staff have been very proactive in implementing government messages and putting actions into place very quickly.

From a Haylands perspective, I have a great staff team, who want the best for the children of Ryde and so give 100% to everything to make it work.

If you would like to see just what we did to welcome the children on 1st June, please see the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUpoUDJcTcHc>

Thank you for your time and attention.

I am happy to take questions following this meeting but would prefer them in writing if possible so that I can prepare a full response.