



## **02.09.2020 Head Teacher's Update – School uniform and gym kit reminder, No snacks in packs, Physical distancing at drop off and pick up, new EAL teacher**

Good morning all.

I hope you are well and having a good week.

Just wanted to say hello at this midweek point and raise a couple of items with you.

Thank you for all of the positive feedback following my Weekly Check in Video on Twitter. I am working with the Parent Council to share the link with them directly, so they can share it on their FaceBook back. I'll also work with my Business Manager to upload it to the website to ensure everyone who wants to can access it.

### **School uniform reminder and gym kit**

It had been great to see all of our children wearing their school uniform and looking so smart.

I thought it would be useful to remind you of the school uniform at this time as we have a number of new families who have joined our RHPS family.

#### **General – Top half**

- Red or white polo shirt
- White school shirt and school tie
- Red crewneck sweatshirt for Primary 1 to Primary 6
- Black crewneck sweatshirt for Primary 7
- Black or red V-neck jumper or sleeveless pullover

#### **General – Bottom half**

- Black or grey trousers **(NB Not jogging bottoms)**
- Black or grey shorts
- Black leggings (must be thick enough material so they are opaque)
- Black or grey skirt or pinafore
- Red and white gingham dresses

#### **Foot wear**

- Black shoes, black trainers or black boots

**(NB Not sport trainers or football trainers unless it is a PE day)**

We have a stock of good quality second-hand school uniform available for a small donation. If you need help to provide your children with school uniform at any point through the year, please contact us at school and we will work out a solution.

The key point is that jogging bottoms should not be worn on days that are not P.E. days. Children should wear trousers, shorts, skirts or leggings as listed above.

Their P.E kit should be unbranded active sports-wear. They should wear their school jumper or cardigan as an extra layer should the weather be colder. They will be able to wear their waterproof jacket as a further layer to ensure they are kept warm.

They should wear appropriate sports footwear. I appreciate that some children have branded shoes which are fit for purpose and children will be allowed to wear trainers which are branded as I wouldn't want you to have to buy another pair of shoes just for P.E.

If you have any questions, please contact me via the school office. Thank you.

### **'No snacks in packs' policy and water bottles**

The majority of our children have been bringing in a variety of healthy snacks in line with our 'no snacks in packs' policy.

Again due to the number of new families I thought it was a good time to remind everyone of the expectations.

We strongly encourage snacks to be healthy and not anything that comes in a pack.

Children can have fruit, vegetables, oatcakes, crackers and such like, which they should bring in a reusable Tupperware tub.

It would be great if parents and carers could share their ideas on the Parent Council Facebook page to give inspiration to others.

Please remember to give your child a water bottle to bring to school. This should only contain water, and not any flavoured water or juice. The children are able to fill their water bottles up at any point during the day to make sure they have enough to drink.

### **New staff member – Debora Lopez, English As an Additional Language (EAL) teacher**

Our EAL teacher, Nikhat Yusaf, who we have enjoyed a very close and successful partnership with, has been given a new remit working on the Council-wide Equalities focus. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

We are delighted to welcome Debora Lopez to the RHPS team. She will be working remotely initially but I wanted to introduce to her, so you recognise her when she is able to come into school.



### **IMPORTANT REMINDER - Physical distancing at drop off and pick up**

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has been adhering to the physical distancing guidelines during drop off and pick up.

We have all read or seen the reports in the press about the increasing number of positive COVID-19 cases in schools and around Scotland. Now is the time that we need to be extra vigilant and make sure we follow the guidance as closely as possible.

I am aware that we all need regular reminders about the absolute necessity to maintain the 2-metre distancing whilst in the playground.

With everything else that we are managing just now, myself, my Senior Leadership team and staff don't have the capacity to monitor this on a daily basis and this is where we need your support.

A good number of our families, staff included, are either vulnerable themselves or living with or caring for someone vulnerable.

For this reason, we need to show respect and support for them and maintain physical distancing when in the playground.

As I mentioned previously, if this is not maintained and adhered to parents and carers will not be able to come into the playground which is the last thing any of us want to happen.

Please make sure that you stand 2-metres from other adults if you are in the playground.

You are encouraged to wear a mask if that makes you feel safer.

We are an extremely supportive school community and one of the ways we can demonstrate this is by strictly sticking to the guidelines to ensure every member of our school community is safe and protected.

Thank you for your support with this.

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As ever, if you have any questions linked to any of the items mentioned above, please contact us through the usual channels, [admin@royalhigh-pri.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@royalhigh-pri.edin.sch.uk) or 0131 669 3200.

Our Parent Council can be contacted via [rhpsparents@gmail.com](mailto:rhpsparents@gmail.com).

I will continue tweeting regularly through [@RHPSWholeSchool](https://twitter.com/RHPSWholeSchool) and adding my Head Teacher updates to the website as well as sending out these emails through ParentPay.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding at this challenging time. I am extremely proud of how the RHPS family are responding and continue to do so.

Take care, keep well and stay in touch.

Anna

Anna Hazel-Dunn

Head Teacher

The Royal High Primary School