

Hartshorne C of E



Primary School

# September 2023 Updates

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*Friday 15 September 2023*

## *Online Safety*

### *Updated Supervision Features for FB Messenger and Instagram*

*In June 2023 Meta rolled out some new parental features for FB Messenger and Instagram. As of 30th August these updates are now available globally.*

#### *Specific updates for Messenger:*

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- *View how much time the child spends on the app.*
    - *Updates on their contact list.*
  - *Notification if the child reports someone.*
  - *View who can message their child.*
  - *View who can see their child's stories.*
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#### *Specific updates for Instagram:*

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- *Before being able to message someone who doesn't follow them, people must now send a text only invite to connect (in other words, no more unwanted explicit photos from people you don't follow). No further interaction can take place unless the recipient accepts the invite.*
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*In all these are quite positive steps, there is further information [HERE](#).*

## **For Parents - Discord Family Center**

*Discord used to be popular with gamers, now it's hugely popular amongst non-gamers too. Historically Discord has been very lax regarding features that are available for parents to help keep their children safe, but this has recently changed, albeit the changes are a minuscule step in the right direction, at least it's something.*

*Essentially, like many other apps, Discord now has a Family Center. Once set up parents can see:*

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- *What servers (chat rooms) their children have joined or participated in.*
    - *Everyone they've messaged.*
    - *New users they've connected with.*
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*You can read more about these functions and limitations [HERE](#), and [THIS](#) page will show parents how to set up Family Center.*

## **Attendance**

*School attendance is central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential. The government has set a target of 95% attendance for all pupils. This rate allows for periods of illness or particular circumstances when absence from schools is unavoidable. We want your child to attend school regularly as this supports their learning.*

*Why is attending school regularly important?*

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- *To give your child the best possible start in life.*
    - *They will achieve better results.*
  - *They will be able to keep up with their work.*
  - *They will develop friendships and social skills.*
  - *They will gain confidence and independence*
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### Key attendance facts

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- *Attending 90% of the time or less will have a serious effect on learning.*
    - *One day's absence every two weeks will give 90% attendance.*
  - *Up to the age of 16, 90% attendance will mean losing over a year of school.*
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### Authorised and Unauthorised Absence

*The school can only authorise absences in the following circumstances:*

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- *Illness*
  - *Dental/medical appointments (these should be made out of school hours where possible)*
    - *Close family bereavement*
    - *Recognised religious observance (one day only)*
    - *Examination*
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*Please try to arrange all medical appointments during holiday times or out of school hours.*

*If you cannot make doctor or dentist appointments out of school hours, wherever possible the child should come to school before the appointment and return to school afterwards. Please also notify the school office in advance and provide an appointment letter or written confirmation.*

**Family holidays during the school term will not be authorised.**

[\*Requesting Absence for Exceptional Circumstances\*](#)

*If you wish your child to be absent from school for any exceptional circumstances, please complete a [Leave of Absence Request form](#) which will be reviewed by the Headteacher.*

*Please give at least 2 weeks notice.*

### Unplanned Absences

*If your child is absent for any reason, please contact the school office immediately via phone, text or email.*

*If your child is unwell, please provide details of the illness and your child's full name and class. Parents will need to keep the school informed daily if the absence is to continue.*

*An explanation of your child's absence may be required on return to school.*

### Punctuality

#### *Arrival at School*

*The school gates open at 8.30am for all classes and close at 8.45am.*

*Children should go straight to their classroom for the morning register and to start their learning for the day.*

### Lateness

*The school gates will close promptly at the relevant times. If you arrive after 8.45am please enter the school via the office and sign your child in as "late". The morning registration for late pupils closes at 9.15 am; a late arrival after this time will be recorded as unauthorised and will impact your child's attendance for that day by 50%.*

*We strongly encourage prompt arrival to school at all times; this morning routine sets good life expectations and enables your child to not miss out on any learning.*

*We will keep parents informed to those whose Childs' attendance has fallen to 96% or below. This could have been due to a holiday at the beginning of the year or a spell of illness. We have a duty to alert parents of their child's attendance and want to work with families to ensure that children can achieve their full potential.*

*The link below is very useful if you are unsure whether to keep your child off or not.*

*[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)*

### **Christian Value**

*Our Christian value this half term is: Friendship*

### **Forest School**

*Pine - TBC*

*Oak - TBC*

*Willow - Commences Thursday 21 September (children to come in uniform and bring clothes to change into)*

*Beech - TBC*

### **Reading Mornings**

*We would like to invite parents/carers/grandparents back to reading mornings. Come in and read with your child in their class from 8.30-8.45*

*Pine - Friday*

*Oak - Monday*

*Willow - Wednesday*

*Beech - Thursday*

**Congratulations** to Mr and Mrs Walker-Hurst on the birth of their bundle of joy.

### **Safeguarding**

*Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried or concerned for the welfare of a child please call 01629 533190.*

***Dates For Your Diary***

*<https://hartshorne.secure-primariesite.net/term-dates-1/> Term dates for next academic year*

***20 Sep Governor visits in school***

***9 Oct Governor visits in school***

*17 Oct Flu Immunisations*

*18 Oct School Photos*

***20 Oct Harvest Celebration at Church - all welcome. 2.00pm start***

***13 Nov Governor visits in school***

*17 November Bag 2 School <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>*

***15 Dec Pine and Oak Christmas Carol Service at Church 2.15pm start all welcome***

***20 Dec Willow and Beech Nativity at Church 2.30pm - Ticket information to follow***

***21 Dec Willow and Beech Nativity at Church 2.30pm - Ticket information to follow***

***22 Dec Holiday - School Closed***

***Have a lovely weekend***

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