

Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 6th September and wanted to clarify the school's current position with regards its response to the COVID-19 epidemic.

The Government has made clear that it expects all schools to operate as close to normal as possible to allow children to experience the full curriculum offer following many months of disruption. There are certain control measures that remain in place, these are:

- Ensuring good hygiene
- Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes
- Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated
- Following public health advice on testing, self-isolating and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

In addition to this, schools are now required to have an Outbreak Management Plan (OMP) outlining their response to single and multiple confirmed cases of COVID-19.

The school's OMP can be found on our school website by following the link [here](#).

Due to the high infection rate we are currently experiencing in our area, the Local Authority and Public Health Team have advised us to implement the first stage of our OMP. Therefore, the following measures will be in place from Monday 6th September:

- **Face Coverings**

We ask that where they can, parents continue to wear face coverings on the school site when dropping off and picking up children.

Whilst the government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law, it expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet.

- **Parental Contact / Events**

The school has been asked to avoid bringing parents onto the school site other than to drop off and pick up their children. Where a meeting is required, this will be done online where possible. Where this is not possible or practical, meetings will be arranged in well-ventilated rooms and social distancing will be implemented.

Where an event is held, this will be outside or, where not possible, numbers will be managed so that large numbers of people are not brought together at the same time. Such events are likely to take place outside the normal school day and face coverings will be recommended. We will hold Tea & Tissues outside and our planned Summer-in-September Fair will be planned entirely as an outdoor event with social distancing observations expected.

- **Collective Worship (assemblies) and Lunchtimes**

The school will not be returning to full school collective worships (assemblies), these will remain virtual to classes in their classrooms. Lunchtimes will continue to be kept in class groups in the lunch hall; however, children will be able to mix across classes outdoors.

- **Testing**

The LA and Public Health continue to recommend that all members of the school community (staff, pupils and parents) take Lateral Flow Tests twice weekly.

- **Social Distancing**

We ask that all parents and carers maintain social distancing whilst on the school site. If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please contact the office on admin3066@welearn365.com or on 01789 772384.

We appreciate that larger society has opened up and is increasingly getting back to 'normal' but it is important that schools do not become amplifiers of the virus.

Should the school experience an outbreak, we will follow advice from the LA and Public Health to implement additional mitigations. These include:

- Reintroduction of consistent groups 'bubbles'
- Reintroduction of face coverings
- Additional PCR Testing
- Staggered start/finish times to the school day
- Cancellation of school trips
- A review of Clinically Extremely Vulnerable children and staff
- Partial or full closure

Arrangements for school drop-off and pick-up for next week are:

Drop-off: 8:45 a.m.

Collection: 3:30 p.m.

We will no longer be staggering drop-off and collection times and parents and carers will be able to come on to the playground.

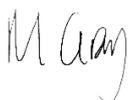
Reception children will be dropped off at the Reception class gate. Children from all other classes will enter school through the main entrance (Church Bank), by the cloakrooms. Miss Britt and Bertie will be on the playground and I will be on the door to welcome all our children back to school.

There will be no P.E. lesson in the first week; we will let all classes know when their PE days are and we will continue to ask children in classes 2 to 4 to come dressed in their PE kits on these days. Reception children will change for P.E. in school.

You will notice we have contractors on site working on our outdoor area and so these areas will be cordoned off until the work has been completed.

Have a lovely weekend and we will see you all on Monday morning.

Best wishes,



Mary Gray
Head of School

