



Tuesday 22 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to ask for your continued support in relation to the current COVID-19 situation and in response to some concerns that I have. We are delighted that we have been able to reopen fully, but want to make sure that all of us are continuing to play our part to keep our community safe.

At the start of the day there is staggered entry by houses. However, it is noticeable at the moment that more pupils than are expected are arriving at the first time slot of 8.45am. While we are pleased that you are all keen, it does mean that we are beginning to get overcrowding around the gate. Many parents want to watch their child wash their hands and go in, which is understandable but also increases the numbers present. A major factor in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 for our community is ensuring that adults are social distancing - it greatly concerns me seeing so many people at once in a small space. With lots of new Reception aged pupils, we are letting these parents accompany their children to the wash basin if they need to, to help them settle. If you are arriving earlier, please consider waiting at a distance till there are less people, dropping off slightly later and moving to a distance to make room for others as soon as possible. If we continue to see crowding, we will need to rethink the current routine.

Equally at the end of the day, the vast majority of you are leaving by the end gate as part of the one-way system to stop crowding at the gate – thank you for this. Unfortunately, not everyone is and yesterday some refused when asked which then led to others following. It is very disheartening to be ignored when we have set this up to keep everyone safe. Please help by setting an example to the children about following these systems. Finally, if you are coming to speak to staff, please keep an appropriate distance from them. We have provided visors for staff in the playground, but it helps if you are wearing a face mask or being aware of your spacing too.

Some of you have asked for clarification about whether you will be informed if a child or adult displays symptoms within your own child's bubble. Put simply, we will not share personal details about anyone, but there is clear protocol that all of us must follow. If someone in your household displays symptoms you must isolate in line with guidance until you either have a negative test result or the appropriate time has passed. Please phone us if you are unsure and we can support you in this. We keep records of absences and the information we are given by you is vital in helping us make decisions about what procedures to follow. To clarify, guidance is that we do not close bubbles in the case of symptoms being present in the class or from family members as symptoms may not be indicative of infection and may lead to unnecessary absence from school. However, we will follow guidance from government and Public Health England if we need to close a bubble or if we need to inform staff or pupils to self-isolate in the case of positive tests.

It is important that we all remain calm and pragmatic at this time so that we do not cause others undue worry. In addition, we should not blame others if we need to close a bubbles

or ask some to self-isolate. It may be frustrating, but contracting an illness is not someone's fault and ultimately as a community we should continue to love and support one another. We can all help and support one another by following government guidance properly, washing our hands more often and keeping an appropriate distance. If you are concerned, then please make contact with us.

Thank you for your continued support at this most strange time.

Kind Regards



Ms Luzmore  
Headteacher of Primary