

Monday 19th April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school; I hope you all had a good break and took the opportunity to spend some quality time together.

It was lovely to see so many of you this morning. We are still working to our previous drop off and collection arrangements so we are very grateful to you all for sticking to the agreed timings and maintaining a safe distance.

As a school, we are continuing to work under the DfE guidelines and will remain vigilant at all times. The BBC reports today that the positive case rate is as low as it has been since last September with the current numbers being 10 / 100,000. This is positive news which suggests that schools reopening fully on 8th March has not caused positive case numbers to increase and the government can continue to relax the restrictions according to their stated roadmap.

From an education perspective, we are very pleased that the overall context has improved but we remain cautious as we are very keen to keep everyone safe and avoid any further class closures.

Reflecting on this improved context and taking account of the learning needs of our pupils, we have looked again at how we are managing the children in their classrooms. We are keen to ensure the school is as safe as possible but we are also very aware that some of our curriculum cannot be delivered effectively if the children continue to sit in rows as per the original plans. We have therefore had a lot of discussion and done some careful planning to see how we can develop some class management strategies that will accelerate the children's learning whilst also keeping the risk of transmission to the lowest level possible and a new addendum to the risk assessment has been uploaded to the school's website detailing how this will be achieved.

In summary, we are proposing the following:

- All children will continue to be taught in class bubbles
- Classrooms and working areas will continue to be well ventilated
- Some children in key stage one classes will work in fixed groups to access key parts of the curriculum together
- There will be some interaction between the two classes in Reception, making this a year group bubble
- Some interventions will be delivered in year group bubbles in KS2 but children will be grouped/ seated to create maximum distance
- Year group interaction will be limited to learning purposes only
- Different year groups will continue to be kept apart
- All of the other control measures will remain in place



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This will allow our teaching staff to better target individual children's needs and make the most effective use of resources at our disposal. Our teaching staff have completed detailed assessments and have plans in place to address any gaps and we believe these adjustments will enable the children to make accelerated progress during the summer term.

This may not sound particularly radical but it will make a positive difference to how the children will be able to learn and progress this term so we wanted to provide you with an explanation and an opportunity to raise any queries. We will monitor the children's progress carefully and will make any changes if they are required.

I hope the rationale I have provided seems reasonable but if you have any worries or questions then please do not hesitate to make contact.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Mitchell (Head Teacher)

