

9<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents,

## Updated guidance – Covid-19

You will be aware that the country will be entering Step 4 of the roadmap on 19<sup>th</sup> July. This letter should answer any questions parents may have on what that will mean for us as a school.

### **Will we be changing our system of controls from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July?**

No. As we will only have 3 days of term left on 19<sup>th</sup> July, I do not intend to change any of the system of controls currently in place.

### **Will parents be able to attend end of term events in the last three days of term?**

Unfortunately, parents will not be able to attend any of the end of term events. We understand that parents may be frustrated and upset by this decision however there are many reasons behind this. The advice from the local authority and the government is that schools that are still open after the 19<sup>th</sup> July should continue with their preventative measures.

The number of cases of Covid are on the rise and schools all around us are being affected by positive cases. Although people who have been vaccinated are less likely to be hospitalised, people are still getting quite poorly. We have done so well at keeping the school community safe and as the summer holidays approach, we do not want to risk any outbreaks that could jeopardise people's holiday plans.

### **What measures will be in place to protect pupils and staff from infection until the end of term?**

We will continue with the following system of controls until the end of term:

- Regular handwashing
- Respiratory hygiene
- Ventilation of indoor spaces
- Visitors wearing face masks
- Front facing desks
- Enhanced cleaning regimes
- Year group bubbles.
- Restricting number of visitors on site.

### **What measures will be in place in September?**

The government has issued new guidance for schools for Step 4 of the roadmap. We will be following this guidance from September. The following measures of control will be in place in September for pupils and staff:

#### **Good hygiene including:**

- Regular handwashing
- Catch it, bin it, kill it.

- Enhanced cleaning regimes.
- Ventilation of rooms, maintaining a comfortable temperature.

**Mixing and bubbles:**

- There is no requirement for children to remain in bubbles.
- We will be returning to our normal lunchtimes
- Whole school assemblies will resume.
- Classes do not need to be front facing.
- There will be no staggered start and finish times to the school day.

**Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and management of confirmed cases:**

- Anyone with symptoms should not attend school
- Anyone who has tested positive should not attend school

**Tracing in September:**

From September close contacts of positive cases will be identified via NHS Test and Trace

**Face masks:**

From September, unless guidance changes, visitors to school will not be required to wear face masks.

**Social distancing:**

I recommend that adults continue to follow the 2m rule and wherever possible keep a distance from other adults.

**Will the school provide remote education if my child has to self-isolate?**

Yes, for pupils who have to self-isolate, including those who have tested positive for Covid-19 but are well enough to carry on their studies.

I hope this answers most of your questions, however if you have further questions please do not hesitate to email the office.

I will send out further communication if government advice changes over the summer.

Jo Woolley

09.07.21