

Dear Parents,

Following the recently updated COVID-19 operational guidance for schools, we would like to update you on some of our planned changes for September. Whilst we endeavour to balance our proactive and reactive responses, the national and local situation regarding the pandemic is constantly evolving. For this reason, please be aware that further changes and developments may well follow.

Please also be aware that our school has a comprehensive Outbreak Management Plan for circumstances where there may be a localised outbreak of COVID cases in the future. Under such circumstances, significant restrictions and changes to practices may be implemented with short notice.

The School Day

- For all classes, our school day will start at 9.00am. Classroom doors will be open from 8.50am with learning activities ready for children at this time.
- Lunchtimes will continue to be reduced to a 45-minute break and this will be staggered from 12pm. Because of the reduced lunchtime, our school day will continue to end for all classes at 3pm. Parents have told us that they prefer this closing time.
- Full lunch provision, including the Deli Bar, will also resume.

Car Park

- Access to our overflow carpark will resume from September.
- Parents who use the carpark must turn off their engines to prevent pollution.
- Please be mindful of residents' access on Rossall Grove and be aware of the planned extensions of the double yellow lines on Rossmore Road.
- Car park open around 2.50pm; children & staff can use external site until the bell goes at 3.

One-way system

- We will no longer operate our external one-way system around the school site. Internally, we will remove access restrictions and social distancing guidance will no longer apply.

Class Bubbles

- From the start of the new academic year (September 2021) we will not be operating with any class bubbles.
- Classes will no longer be separated from each other during playtimes and we plan to restart whole school gatherings including assemblies, collective worship and school masses.

Uniform and PE Kits

- Children will return to wearing full school uniform, including black school shoes.
- On PE days, children will continue to come to school wearing PE kits (white t-shirt, black shorts/joggers, trainers) Pumps will not be needed next year.
- Parents will be informed before the start of term about which days PE will be allocated. Children will need to wear their normal school uniform on 2/9/21 and 3/9/21

Positive cases of COVID-19

- If a child has COVID symptoms, the school will inform parents that a PCR test needs to be arranged. For safety reasons, test results must be provided to school before the child can return.

- Where a positive case of COVID-19 is confirmed within the school community, the individual child/adult will need to self-isolate. Children who are close contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate and groups and/or classes will not be sent home.
- In circumstances where a child cannot attend school because of a case of COVID-19, provision for remote learning through Google Classroom will continue.
- Where there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 within a family home, the household (including siblings) should follow the current public health advice (see link below).

Visitors and School Trips

- We plan to restart our curriculum enrichment programme, with visitors into school and off-site trips. Further details will follow in the autumn term.

Face Coverings

- From September, these are no longer advised for pupils, staff or visitors to the school site.

Money

- We will continue to operate as a cashless school.
- All monies can be paid online using the Scopay app.
- Dinner money and snack money must be paid in advance.

Control Measures

In addition to the above changes, the following control measures will remain in places:

1. *Good hygiene practices, including regular handwashing and the “catch it, bin it, kill it” approach*
2. *Maintenance of appropriate cleaning regimes across school*
3. *Maintenance of appropriate ventilation across school*
4. *Full adherence with public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases.*

Children should not come to school if they are displaying covid symptoms. If a child develops symptoms whilst at school, they will be sent home and should follow public health advice.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection

We thank all our parents and families for everything you have done to support our covid management approach throughout this extremely challenging year. Throughout the pandemic period, confirmed cases within our school community have been low and transmission has been minimal due to the diligence and proactive efforts of everyone.

Please remember that we finish for the summer break at 1pm on Friday 16th July and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Thursday 2nd September.

Many thanks,



Mr Hughes, Headteacher