



Newsletter

3.9.2021



Welcome back ...

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Staff

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope that you had a lovely summer holiday. It has been wonderful to see the children back in school this week, looking so happy and ready to learn. We have been enjoying getting back to a more 'normal' way of working in school and the children are adapting to this with ease. Following the changes that we have made, which reflect the Department for Education's revised operational guidance, I thought it would be helpful to write to you with a summary.

The government have been very clear in their guidance that the priority for schools is to reduce disruption and focus on delivering face-to-face, high quality education for all pupils and the changes very much reflect this.

The main changes are as follows:

- It is no longer necessary to keep children in consistent groups (bubbles)
- Whole school events can resume (we will be slowly introducing these)
- NHS Track and Trace are now responsible for identifying any close contacts of positive cases. **We will therefore no longer be informing parents of any individual positive cases within the school** and will only contact parents should the NHS seek our assistance in this or if we meet the threshold for an outbreak.
- Children do not need to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19
- Face coverings are no longer advised for pupils, staff and visitors

We will also continue to follow the four key control measures:

- Ensure good hygiene for everyone (such as regular handwashing and 'catch it, bin it, kill it')
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

Schools are now required to have contingency plans (also known as outbreak management plans), outlining what they will do if pupils or staff test positive for COVID-19 and how they will operate if advised to take extra measures to break chains of transmission. Should the threshold set by the government and Public Health England be reached then we will liaise directly with the public health team and the local authority and will follow their advice. A copy of this contingency plan is available on our website.

From Monday, the one-way system will no longer be in place. This will be monitored and should there be increased congestion in this area then we will need to revisit this decision.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes,

Charlotte Faithfull



Attendance

Please **do not send** your child into school if they have any of the following symptoms:

a high temperature
a new, continuous cough
a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

If your child is displaying one or more of these symptoms, then your child **must stay at home and self-isolate.** A PCR test must be completed and the pupil cannot return to school until a negative result is received.

Inset Days

Academic Year 2021-2022

Friday 22nd October 2021
Friday 17th December 2021
Friday 18th February 2022
Friday 8th April 2022
Thursday 21st July 2022

Nut Free Lunch Boxes

Please ensure you do not send your child into school with any item made with or containing nuts. We are a nut free school. The kitchen operates a nut free system also.

PE Kits

Children will need to come in to school in their PE kit. I have previously spoken to you about the governors agreeing to us providing the PE kit for our pupils. Unfortunately, there have been supplier issues so there is a delay to this. The Year 3 children and any new children will today come home with their new house t-shirts. Existing pupils should already have one from last year.

For PE days the children will need to wear their house t-shirt, school jumper, trainers and a pair of shorts or joggers from home (do not worry about the colour at this time).

PE Days:

Year 3 – Monday
Year 6 – Tuesday
Year 5 – Wednesday
Year 4 – Thursday

Upcoming Dates

Inset Day	Friday 22 nd October
Half Term Holiday	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th October.

Bikes and Scooters

Bikes and scooters can now be brought on to the school site but children must enter from the Milton Road gate and should walk them in. They must be locked in the allocated area. Please be advised that these are brought on to site at your own risk.