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Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families have had a happy and healthy summer break. As promised, I am writing to update you about arrangements for the start of the new term. This is the first of two letters and in this letter I will give you an update about the measures we have put in place to minimise the disruption to education due to Covid19. In my second letter, later today, I will update you about the building project.

We are looking forward to welcoming the children in Years 1 to 6 back to school on Monday 6th September and Foundation Stage pupils from Tuesday 7th September. Some things will seem very similar to last year. The timings for the school day remain unchanged. We will open up the Partnership from 8.30-9am each morning and from 3pm, ready for the 3.15pm pick up, each afternoon. For children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 the school day starts at 8.50am and for Years 3 to 6, 8.40am. All children will continue to enter the building through their classroom doors. We will continue to ask the children to regularly wash their hands, increase the amount of ventilation around the school (depending on weather conditions) and make sure that areas that are frequently touched such as door handles are regularly cleaned. Staff will also continue to test twice weekly using lateral flow tests.

There will be some differences as we cautiously move back to a more normal way of working. There is no expectation for adults to wear masks whilst dropping off and picking up children and the one way system around the infant school will no longer be in operation. If you would feel more comfortable wearing a mask please feel free to do so. We will start to use the main hall for lunches and assemblies as we move away from assemblies on Zoom and there will be more mixing at playtimes.

However, if your child has symptoms of Covid 19:

- A high temperature
- A new persistent and continuous cough
- Loss of taste and smell

Please do not send your child to school and arrange for your child to have a PCR test.

If your child tests positive for Covid19 please inform us immediately and they will need to self isolate for 10 days. Close contacts will be asked to have a PCR test but classes of children and year groups will not be sent home to self isolate. If we have 5 or more confirmed cases within a group that have had close contact within a 10 day period our measures will be reviewed with the support of the Public Health team and additional measures may be reintroduced.

I am attaching some information from the NHS which I hope you will find helpful. Staff will continue to be present on the gates each morning and will be able to answer questions.

With my very best wishes,
Mrs Bull