



Covid-19 – Additional Letter

01.11.20

Dear Parents

Firstly, I want to express our appreciation for the way families have respected the need to reduce adults in school and as a result, you have used email and the telephone to conduct most communication. We have also appreciated how families are reading our weekly newsletter and following school news on social media to keep updated.

I feel it is important to respond to the most recent announcement made by the Prime Minister in order to ensure we continue to stay safe as a school community. We are very aware that our children are exceptionally precious and that we want to keep them, and our staff, safe and well. We are conscious that announcements and decisions such as the newly announced lockdown, can heighten anxiety and cause, for some, upset and worry.

We also want to ensure that families feel reassured about sending their children to school, and feel confident in the way we conduct ourselves, to ensure the children are happy, safe and continuing to be educated to a high standard.

On Monday evening, the senior leadership team will be meeting to reflect on our response to the most recent announcement. We will keep you up to date with any decisions made.

The school has had another deep clean over the half term and we are ready to welcome back our children. There are however, some things you can do to help make fellow parents, staff and the children, feel confident that everyone is doing their bit to reduce the risk to one another.

We are therefore asking you to do the following:

- Drop off children at the appropriate entrance and **do not wait around at all** near the school grounds (the children will be fine with our staff)
- If children walk to school by themselves, make sure they don't arrive early
- Consider wearing a mask for extra protection, when dropping off and picking up
- Social distance at all times and avoid unnecessary grouping with friends/others picking up
- Continue to be respectful and be thoughtful when using a car, to not block the drive and always park safely
- Encourage the children to wash their hands before leaving for school and when arriving back home
- If you are isolating, waiting for a covid-19 test result or you have tested positive – please let school know immediately
- Be prepared to respond if we need to close a bubble or the school. Make sure you are able to access online learning – Google Classroom / Tapestry (EYFS)

We are keeping in touch with the relevant authorities and we continue to react to the various issues that present themselves at this time. As a school, we are also determined not to transfer concern and anxiety to the children. We want the children's education to continue to be fun, exciting and engaging which is a very challenging balance to strike.

Your support is pivotal in this and we hope you feel able to respond to the above requests positively and supportively.

We are very fortunate that in the first half of this term, we have had no incidents where children have proven to be covid-19 positive. Despite the usual colds and bugs, we are also grateful that our staff have been well and there have been no incidents where our staff have become poorly with the virus, meaning we have had to isolate a bubble. We have had one member of staff who was covid positive, but thankfully they had already been isolating for 14 days prior to this test result meaning this did not have significant consequences. The member of staff is thankfully well and back to work. Like any other working environment, staff may throughout the year be required to isolate if contacted by track and trace. We are doing everything possible to ensure that we use the same supply teachers and cover staff where possible to address any absence.

A coronavirus incident could happen at any point this year. We are prepared to respond quickly and decisively should this happen. We continue to do everything we can to avoid the spread of the virus and we really hope you will support us with adhering to the above requests.

On behalf of all of the staff, I would like to thank you and ask for your ongoing support as we move forward together.

Thank you once again

Mr Jones

Mr B Jones
Headteacher