



Friday 17th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and to say thank you for all your support over this Autumn Term. It has been an absolute joy to see the children making good progress in their learning and enjoying school activities and social times with their friends.

We have been incredibly fortunate that our school has not seen a huge impact of COVID-19, such as outbreaks and class closures due to staff shortages. Like me, I'm sure you will have seen and heard plenty from the media about possible school closures looming in January; the government is currently maintaining their position that keeping schools and face-to-face education a top priority. All schools have been asked to revisit their contingency plans and have plans in place for a range of situations where the school is impacted by COVID-19, such as local staff shortages, local outbreaks, right through to full closure. I will be able to communicate this detailed plan with you in due course.

When the children return in January we will continue with the measures currently in place:

- Regular hand washing or sanitising when children or staff change location.
- All staff wearing face-masks (unless exempt) in all areas except the classroom or outside.
- It is requested that all visitors (including parents) take a lateral flow test (LFD) before coming to school for events or meetings
- The school is kept well ventilated

As additional precautions, due to the concern over the Omicron variant, in place will be:

- I ask that all parents return to using the one-way system on our school site and also return to a 'no congregating' approach to drop off and collection. If you are required to wait, keep a social distance from others.
- Children will be back into bubbles for lessons, breaktimes and lunchtimes. Where bubbles are not possible, such as at some extra-curricular clubs and Happy Hols, activities will be designed to minimise close proximity whenever possible. The start and end times of the school day are unchanged.

Any measures designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are kept under continual review, therefore may be updated at any time. Please expect me to communicate with you again on Monday 3rd January, when I will be able to give you the most up-to-date information for schooling in January.

I hope that you know that this is not the Christmas message that I wanted to send, however, please know that the team and I will always do everything we can to keep things as normal and consistent for our children as we possibly can.

I wish you a wonderful Christmas and I can't wait to welcome our children back in 2022.

Jamie Pardon

Headteacher