



13th September 2020

Dear Parent and Carers

I am writing to update you on our current situation in school, our ongoing response to Covid-19 and our plans for this term.

Within school, we have had three confirmed cases of Covid-19 this week. All relevant authorities have been contacted and as a result, we have closed Classroom 4 and Classroom 5 within school for a period of 14 days due to staff and pupil self-isolation.

We are continuing to monitor the situation and will be open on Monday 16th November as normal for all other classrooms.

Should your child develop symptoms over the weekend, we do ask that you arrange a Covid-19 test and keep them off school until you have received a result. Should your child at Merryfields School receive a positive test result for Covid-19, we request that you inform the school office immediately, or if it is the weekend or evening, please call the school mobile telephone on 07946312772. Please do not wait until the school is open to inform us.

Government guidelines continue to cite the three symptoms as possible indicators of Covid-19.

- A high temperature
- A new continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Our Risk Assessment for Covid-19 remains in place; we continue to stagger our start and end of day times, we are keeping pupils within their bubbles throughout the day and more regular handwashing routines are now becoming engrained as part of the school routine.

We ask parents to remain vigilant of social distancing measures during morning and afternoon transitions. Although the government guidance does not require face coverings to be worn outdoors, we would encourage anyone who is able to, to wear one when dropping off or collecting their children from school.

If any pupils display any of the three symptoms, as detailed above, they will be quarantined with a member of staff and we will be in contact with you, requesting that they are collected immediately from school. Should we receive confirmation of further positive cases in the coming weeks, we would be following the guidance of Public Health England and may have to close classrooms for required time period.

In addition, please be aware that we may find ourselves in a position, where we have to close a classroom/bubble due to Covid related staff absence. We will do our very best to remain open in all circumstances, however this may not always be possible. Should this happen, school will contact parents as soon as possible





Annual Reviews and Parent Communication

Current government guidelines are restricting visitors to schools; we are therefore continuing to conduct Annual Reviews and maintaining contact with parents and carers by telephone. Please note that phone calls can not be taken by staff during the school day and we recommend all parents use SeeSaw wherever possible.

We generally have a parent teacher meeting in the Autumn term, however this will not be taking place. Instead, we are requesting all staff send home our Individual Education and Support Plans, which will detail pupil's progress throughout the first term of the academic year.

Recovery Curriculum

Many classrooms continue to work on our recovery curriculum, which was designed to not only support pupils return to school in September, but to also support them in adjusting to the current situation we find ourselves in nationally. I can assure you that due to pupils transitioning back to school in such a positive manner, we hope to have all classrooms returned to the full Curriculum in the Spring Term.

Christmas Events

This term, is one which is generally remembered for our Christmas celebrations, Fayres and Charity Events. We are continuing to hold charity events in school, whilst ensuring pupils do not mix with anyone from another classroom bubble. Our Christmas performance will be completed on a class by class basis and more information will follow in the coming weeks. We are aware that some families in our community may find this Christmas period more difficult than others. Therefore, we will be having a Charity event in December, to collect money which can be donated to a local charity.

As always, thank you all for your support over the previous term and I hope you all remain safe and well. Should you require any support during this time, please contact the school office.

Yours Sincerely

Headteacher

Headteacher

Diary Dates

School Photographs - Friday 27th November

INSET Day – Monday 14th December (School Closed to pupils)

