

Dear Parents

I hope this email finds you and your family well and you have enjoyed a relaxing summer holiday. After two intensive staff training days, we are all so looking forward to seeing you and your child tomorrow.

I am sure you will by now be aware of the change in Government guidance since the end of last term. I am pleased to confirm that the proposed changes outlined in my letter at the end of the Summer term have now been confirmed.

Changes since July 2021

- No class bubbles
- No social distancing
- Staff are no longer required to wear face coverings
- No longer will there be staggered start/end to the school day
- Infant and Junior children will now all eat their lunch in the canteen
- Track & Trace will now be undertaken solely by the NHS not by school

The current Government guidance requires us to focus on four control measures:

- Ensure good hygiene for everyone
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated
- Follow public health advice on testing, self isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19.

I do however need to emphasise that if cases rise in school we will regrettably have to return to previous arrangements. Hopefully this will not be the case. As we have consistently emphasised staff and children should not come into school if they have Covid symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on Covid-19 (eg they are required to quarantine).

Government guidance makes it clear what we should do if anyone is unwell with symptoms of Covid-19. "If anyone in your school develops Covid-19 symptoms, however mild, you should send them home and they should follow public health advice"

For everyone with symptoms they should avoid using public transport and wherever possible be collected by a member of their family or household.

From 16th August 2021 children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test & Trace as a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case. Instead children will be contacted by NHS Test & Trace, informed that they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

School staff will continue to undertake twice weekly lateral flow tests and we would encourage adult members of your family to do the same. This will help us to ensure that staff and children are protected.

REMINDERS

Breakfast & After School Clubs commence on Monday 6th September for those who have already booked. I will confirm next week, the program of extra curricular clubs for the Autumn term.

School Lunches - Free School Meals provided by the Government **ONLY** applies to infant age children. If your child is in the Junior school lunches are paid via Squid our online system. Havering Catering Services will only provide a meal if the sQuid account is in credit.

Start & End of School Day – Gates open at 8.45am with lessons starting promptly at 8.55am. Please arrive promptly and respect our neighbours by not parking across driveways. School ends at 3.20pm (3.10 for Reception children).

PE – Children should come to school in their school PE kit (plain white tops no logo please) on their designated PE day. You will be informed of your child's PE day via Dojo.

You will see that building work to the Junior school has yet to be completed (same old story!) Please take care when accessing the Junior school office.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE STAFF CAR PARK AS A WALK THROUGH. It is even more important at this time that this is a pedestrian free area.

If your child has an asthma pump or Epipen please ensure that this is returned to school tomorrow.

I look forward to seeing you tomorrow.

Kind regards

Mr Morris

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