



The Laurels
PRIMARY SCHOOL

13 November 2020

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Dear parent/carer,

I write to thank you for your continued support as we all do all we can to keep our school community as safe as possible. With the new lockdown in place we understand the additional difficulties this may cause, but at the same time I am very proud of the continued progress of our children and amazing team of staff.

Attendance has been excellent to date and we are proud to say that it has been higher than schools nationwide; please remember though, that if you/your child is **symptomatic**, you must self-isolate and not come to school.

Due to the precautions already taken, the new lockdown has not resulted in any major changes to our current provision. However, we appreciate how important it is to keep communication clear and wanted to give you an update now, ready for the half term ahead.

The key actions required to help us all stay as safe as possible are:

1) Face coverings and sanitiser

It is clearly very important that basic handwashing protocols are in place and the children wash their hands regularly throughout the day. Government guidance states children must **not** bring sanitiser into primary schools for health and safety reasons. Currently, the government is also not recommending face coverings in primary schools because our existing control measures mitigate the risk. However, if **parents/carers** would like to wear a face covering for the school run, this would be at your discretion and welcomed by the school.

2) Breakfast club and after school clubs.

As mandated by the government, all after school clubs are required to be paused during lockdown; we will let you know when we are able to commence these again.

We are, however, still able to offer our year 6 children group lessons. These wrap around existing lesson time and are for children in the same bubble to attend by invitation before and/or after school. Breakfast club provision will continue as it can be delivered in line with the wider guidance on protective measures and enables parents/carers to continue to work.

3) School events this term

You will understand that, based on the latest government guidance, we have had to make the decision to suspend additional events for children, parents and carers (both on and offsite) for the remainder of this term. However, we are pleased we can offer parents evening appointments virtually and our alternative plans for a fun Christmas are in progress.

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4) Covid cases

It is vital that if your son/daughter has a confirmed positive test, you let the school know immediately. The specific information we require to conduct our own contact tracing and to plan the correct next steps is:

- the date of the positive test
- the date that the student first displayed symptoms

We also ask that you check your registered email address regularly or have the notifications for your ParentMail app turned on. If we need to contact parent/carers regarding a confirmed case and the need to isolate this will be via ParentMail. It will be vital that the message gets through (and is read) as soon as possible. In addition, the email will give you key information about what your next steps need to be.

5) Extremely medically vulnerable pupils

If you receive a letter from a medical specialist stating that **your son/daughter** falls into the 'Clinically Extremely Vulnerable' category and should therefore not attend school due to Covid reasons, please let us know ASAP. The current guidance states that children who live with people classed as extremely vulnerable should all still be attending school (unless ill or self-isolating).

We hope that you and your family keep well. Please do contact us if there is anything school related that we can help with.

Yours sincerely,



Charlotte Bull
Headteacher