06/09/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to another school year, the children all looked very smart, they are a credit to you. I have a few important messages to give you in this letter.

Thank you for your patience as we try to get the school back to a more normal way of working, particularly to our Early Years and KS1 parents in having to deal with our emergency closure. The building was handed back to me on Friday afternoon and our staff have worked very hard since then to make sure that it looks amazing.

There is still work to be done on the building, we are having a small extension built to replace the room where our brand new, state of the art toilets now are. There should be no disruption to school during this build as it is all outside and well fenced off from the children.

In our Junior building we now are not staggering our going home times. This has meant that we now have 250 children coming out at the same time and it has been a long time since we have done this. During the past year, lots of parents have said to me, please don’t go back to how it used to be at home time. This, along with the geography of our building, the dangers on Wilson Road with traffic coming up Old Road too fast and turning into it and the parking nightmare that we have has given us an opportunity to rethink how we do it. Our new system won’t be perfect to begin with and we will tweak it as we go along to get it working as well as it can. All we ask is for your patience, we’re doing it because we believe it is safer for the children.

Covid, of course, has not gone away has not gone away although the statutory restrictions have changed. We no longer have to work in bubbles which means if a child or adult tests positive then we will not close the whole bubble. Only adults over 18 who have not been double vaccinated and who are identified as close contacts now have to isolate, they will be identified by the national test and trace system. What we will do is, if someone tests positive in your child’s class, is send you a warning letter so that you can be aware to look for symptoms in your child.

This next message has not changed. **If your child has symptoms of Coronavirus they must not come to school.**

These symptoms are:

* new continuous cough and/or;
* high temperature and/or;
* a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

If you or your child feel newly unwell with Covid-19 symptoms, then please access a PCR test. For many people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

However, a number of people frequently present with a wider range of symptoms. If you or your child have wider symptoms, you can register for a PCR test online at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nhs.uk%2Fcoronavirus&data=04%7C01%7Cmarie.hall%40manchester.gov.uk%7Ce00f9263d6dc4ec25d7c08d941361a0c%7Cb0ce7d5e81cd47fb94f7276c626b7b09%7C0%7C0%7C637612522941514598%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=AjeWeBBgvr8wiQcxW8Py2EVlZ5KPyt1uWJJ9thBqoZg%3D&reserved=0) and tick the box that says your local authority asked you to take a test. Or ring 119 and say the same thing to book a test.

**Wider symptoms include:**

* Diarrhoea
* Headache that lasts a long time
* Muscle or full body aches
* Sore throat
* Blocked or runny nose
* Sickness or vomiting

Should there be a local outbreak or should we receive advice from Public Health England that we have to, then we will revert to our contingency plan which will bring back certain restrictions but, of course, we would give you details of this if and when it should happen. We are praying that this doesn’t have to happen, we just want to get back to a normal way of working, forever.

Thank you again for supporting us into our new year, I look forward to working with you all for the benefit of our amazing children.

Kind regards,



Jacqui Potts

Headteacher