

Dear Parents

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of you for your support with the wider reopening of the school. The children seem to be enjoying being back with their friends and their teachers and your support with our covid arrangements has enabled a very positive start to the academic year – thank you.

As you will be aware, this term is going to be turbulent as cases of covid19 are increasing. Our overall aim is to keep our school and our classes open. In order to do this we need your continued support.

We have reviewed our current arrangements this week and would like to pass on the following information:

- If you arrive after 9am, please do not use the playgroup gate but ring the bell into the school office from the staff car park.
- At the end of the day, please do not enter the playgroup gate onto the playground until it is opened by a member of staff. If collecting from playgroup, please wait that side of the fence until asked to come onto the playground. We have PE lessons taking place and children moving around the site and so need to keep it secure until 3pm.
- Please continue to pass very brief messages to the teacher at the gate in the morning. Avoid face to face conversations with staff on the playground at the end of the day. Please email or arrange a phone call.
- Please continue to keep the narrow channel alongside Ruby and Sapphire Class clear at the end of the day. Come right up onto the playground and walk back to the path when you have your child/ren.
- Remember that only one adult should come to drop off and pick up children.
- Continue to leave the playground promptly when you have your children at the end of the day.
- Keep the entrances into and out of the school clear. Conversations with other parents at the gate must be avoided.

Illness

Our absolute priority is to keep everyone within our school community as safe as we possibly can.

We have been asked a lot over the last week whether children can attend school if they have a cold. Our approach is this: If a child feels under the weather, has needed medicine, is bothered by their cold or they are not going to be able to learn when in school, then they should stay at home. If they feel OK in themselves and you feel that they will cope with the normal school day, then they can come in. It would be worth making sure that they know how to use tissues safely if they need to blow their nose more regularly. **Please remember however that if there is any sign of a temperature; a new, continuous cough, or change in sense of taste or smell, they MUST NOT come to school.** They would need to isolate for 10

days, and the rest of the household for 14 days. You would need to get the child with symptoms tested and share the result with the school.

Please also note that if a child is needing Calpol or similar before school, then they should stay at home. We are unable to administer another dose at lunchtime once the first dose wears off and there is the potential for the Calpol to mask other symptoms.

Please familiarise yourself with the attached document, 'COVID19-Related Pupil Absences'.

We understand that these measures are going to be disruptive to you and your families and to the school as a whole. We are trying to take a measured approach based on guidance from Public Health England, the Department for Education and Gloucestershire County Council. Together we have a collective responsibility to do what is necessary to keep us operational and avoid having to close any 'bubbles'.

Kind regards,

Mr Gibson and Staff