Fishbourne C E Primary School

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Families Newsletter 15

Dear Families,

I am writing to update you on the latest information relating to our Covid-19 risk assessment. This week a new edition of Operational Guidance for schools was published from the DfE and we have been working through this. We will not be making any changes to our risk assessments before the summer holidays and our current risk assessment will remain in place until the beginning of the autumn term.

We wanted to make you aware of several changes that we intend to make, assuming we receive no change in guidance.

From Monday 6th September 2021

***Beginning of the school day:**
There will no longer be a need to stagger arrival times in school. The gates to the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds will be open between 8.45 and 8.55am, giving families a ten minute window to arrive in school. Our current routine of dropping children at the gate will remain in place and we ask parents not to come onto the playground at the start of the school day. This allows learning to get off to a flying start in the classrooms and we have found that our children settle much more quickly saying goodbye at the gate!

***End of the school day:**
Our KS1 and KS2 gates will open at 3.10pm and parents will be invited to come onto the playground to collect your children in the way we used to. Children in our new Reception class will be collected from the white fenced are at the back of the Reception classroom, accessed through the KS2 playground. Children in KS1 will leave at 3.15pm and children in KS2 will leave at 3.20pm as we did prior to the lockdown. Staff in KS1 will do a face to face hand over, releasing children to their parent/carer when they have seen them. Children in KS2 will come onto the playground with their teacher and be released to you. A member of staff will be present on both gates to ensure that no children leave the school premises unaccompanied.

***Walking Bus:**
The Walking Bus will re-start and operate from the Roman Palace in the mornings only. Mrs Carter has very kindly agreed to lead this initiative for us. Children can be dropped off by the café at the Roman Palace where Mrs Carter will meet them at 8.40am. The Walking Bus will depart promptly at 8.45am.

***Bubbles:**
There will no longer be bubbles in school so the children will be able to move freely around the building again and able to play with children from different year groups at playtimes. The children will be able to mix at lunchtimes when eating in the hall and we will be able to hold assemblies again.

***PE Kits:**
PE kits should be brought to school where the children will change for PE and kits will be kept in cloakrooms, returned at the end of each week to be washed.

***Face coverings:**
We will no longer request that parents wear face coverings on the pathways around school but welcome you to do so if

this makes you feel more comfortable. Some staff may still wear face coverings in communal areas of school and on pathways but this will be optional.

***Stationery:**
The school will provide your child with the stationery they need for the school day. We are not asking parents to provide pencil cases next year.

***Before and after school clubs:**
We will be working with our external club providers to offer a range of before and after school clubs. More information about these will be available during the first week of September.

***Attending school:**
As with the current protocols, any child displaying symptoms of Covid-19 should not attend school and should be tested using a PCR test (not a lateral flow). If anyone in school develops symptoms they will be sent home and then tested using a PCR test before returning to school with a negative test OR, in the case of a positive test, self isolating for 10 days.

We will shortly be updating our risk assessments in preparation for the autumn term and these will be shared on our school website during August. We will write to families again on Thursday 2nd September to confirm the changes outlined above.

***School uniform:**
We are aware that some of our children are wearing trainers currently and that school uniform has been tricky at different points during the school year as a result of shops being shut. However, we request that all the children are wearing their correct uniform on our return in September, including proper school shoes (please note that children should not wear boots to school, even in the winter) and PE kits.
Hair long enough to be tied back must be at all times when the children are in school.
We have adapted our PE kit to ensure that those children wishing to do so, may wear black shorts moving forward. The children starting with us in Reception class and those replacing PE kit as the children grow out of it, should please purchase black PE shorts.
Leavers Hoodies for children in Year 6 must only be worn for trips, the residential visit and for PE sessions.

In other news…

Road Safety:
I have been made aware that there was a near-miss on the road outside school yesterday morning, with a parent reversing and mounting onto the pavement and was unaware that three boys were walking on the pavement. Another parent had to shout out to the boys to stop walking as the driver did not see the boys.

Correspondence:
Do keep an eye out for a letter at the beginning of next week with details about the arrangements for your child's school reports which will be coming home at the end of the week. We will also be publishing a newsletter and a summer edition of Fishbourne Reads before the end of term.

If you have any questions about anything in this letter, please do not hesitate to get in touch.
Every best wish,

Naomi Day