



Doddiscombsleigh Primary School
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Dear Parents,

July 2020

Covid 19 - Full opening of schools in September

As you are aware, new guidance has been published by the Government with the expectations that schools will fully open in September. The leadership teams are currently planning for this and will send you further details before the end of term so that you know what to expect when school restarts fully. We are also in the process of reviewing our Covid 19 risk assessments.

Some things that you need to know:

AS IS THE CASE NOW, CHILDREN WHO HAVE COVID 19 SYMPTOMS MUST STAY AT HOME AND MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL.

Bubbles

Children will still be in bubbles, however, these bubbles will be bigger than the current ones. In some of our schools, children may be in a class bubble and in others a bubble that includes two classes. Bubbles will stay separate from each other, as they do now.

If we get two confirmed cases (by test) in a bubble, the children/adults within that bubble would then go home and further guidance will be provided to them. The other unaffected bubbles would remain in school.

Attendance

From the first day children return back to school, **attendance will once again be compulsory** and therefore it will be important that children arrive in school at the right time and attend school every day. During the current period, we have closed the school on a Friday afternoon for deep cleaning. This will no longer be the case in September and the schools will run every day as normal, but with staggered start and finish times.

Behaviour policy

In line with the government guidance, our behaviour policy will be adapted and will include the importance of regular handwashing and the importance that children remain within allocated spaces and within their own bubble. A new code of conduct will be agreed with the children in September.

Uniform and PE Kit

We are keen to make school as normal as it can be, and as such children will be expected to wear school uniform, including school shoes from September. The latest uniform list will be sent out at the end of term by your Head of School. The latest Government guidance states that 'Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal.'

Children will no longer need to bring their PE kit to school on a Monday and leave it in school for the week. Instead, they will now need to wear their PE kit to school (including their trainers) on the day that they have PE, rather than wearing their school uniform. They can wear track suit bottoms (these need to be the same colour as the PE shorts) and their school jumper over their PE top.

We like to get children outside even when the weather is less than ideal. Therefore, it is really important that children wear a coat to school, when needed. **Please ensure all uniform is named.**

Face coverings

In line with Public Health England advice, children and staff will be asked not to wear face coverings in school. This is because staff and children are in bubbles in school and because the misuse of face coverings may increase the risk of transmission. If you choose for your child to wear a face covering on their way to and from school, these must be removed when they arrive at school. If you bring your child, please take the face covering home with you. If older children come to school by themselves, their disposable covering will need to be placed in a covered bin. Reusable ones will need to be placed in a plastic bag so that they can be used at the end of the day.

Childcare over the summer

Achieve4all, our sports providers, are running a holiday club over the summer, which will be based at St Michael's and open to all of the USF schools, including Doddiscombsleigh Primary. More details can be found at www.achieve4all.co.uk

Devon County have also produced a list of providers which can be found through this link: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/schools-and-families/#section-1>

We are all looking forward to the children returning in the autumn term. Thank you for your continued support during this time. If you have any questions, please contact your school in the normal way.

Kind regards,
Martin Harding
Executive Head Teacher