

Pheasey Park Farm Primary School and Early Years Centre

Address: Wimperis Way, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 7DH

Telephone: 0121 3666183

School Email: postbox@pheasey.org.uk

Early Years Centre Email: early-years@pheasey.org.uk

Website: www.pheaseyparkfarmprimary.co.uk / www.elstonhallmat.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs S Arnold

Early Years Centre Managers: Miss T Ilsley and Mrs L Smith



PHEASEY PARK FARM
Primary School &
Early Years Centre

Friday, 15th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Increased Covid Cases across Walsall

We would like to assure parents that it has always been our intention to make arrival, dismissal and daily school procedures as comfortable and as safe as we possibly can for the children, parents and staff and we would like to thank parents for their assistance and support over the last half term.

That said, we do need to inform all parents that the number of Covid-19 cases in Walsall not only remains high, but is increasing week on week - with the majority of cases currently in school aged children. **All Walsall schools have now been advised to review their Risk Assessments and take proactive steps to reduce any further spread and bring down the number of cases.** We are all being asked to work together to try and prevent any further disruption to education - our children have been through enough and we all know they need to be in school. Please find attached a joint letter to parents and carers from Walsall Council and Walsall Public Health.

Therefore, from Monday 18th October, the following measures are being reintroduced:

- **Class bubbles:**

We are moving back to class bubbles. Therefore, all lessons will be taught in classes. The only exception to this is 6CS maths group, however children in this group will only sit with children from their own classes

- **Staggered home times:**

We are keeping the morning start the same times the same as they are now as it naturally staggers - however we need to put staggered finish times in place. Therefore, we will be releasing children as follows:

- Reception - 3:10pm
- KS1 - 3:15pm
- Year 3/4 - 3:20pm
- Year 5/6 - 3:25pm
- pm Nursery - 3:30pm



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- **PLEASE NOTE: if you have more than one child - you must collect all children at the LATER time. This will avoid younger children and parents having to wait for older children to be released. Staff will remain in classes to make sure children are supervised until collected.**

There are NO changes to where children are being released from, but we will review this if necessary.

- **Face coverings:**
Staff will wear face coverings on door duties and we are requesting that parents resume the wearing of face coverings when on site.
- **Parents and visitors to school**
We will not be able to allow parents or visitors into school unless this is essential and has been organised by the Office. Please do not enter classrooms and instead call the School Office if you need to pass messages on or need to arrange to speak to the class teachers as they will need to avoid face to face contact. If you do speak to a member of staff, please wear a face covering.
- **Outdoor breaks:**
Whilst outside, the risk is much reduced. We will separate year groups on the playground to minimise spread, however we will allow children to mix within their year group. On balance, we feel this is essential for children's mental health and wellbeing - especially as many children rely on this time to see their friends, especially those who may have friends in other classes.
- **Christmas and events for parents:**
Unfortunately, if things continue like they are, we will not be able to go ahead with Early Years Nativity performances and the Year 5 Carol Concert with parents attending. Parents will be disappointed about this and we share those feelings. We will look at how we can manage this. Please bear with us - we would like to find a way to do something.
- **Forest Arts Music**
Peripatetic lessons will continue to take place and we will ensure that groups will be in classes wherever possible, windows will be open and social distancing will be in place.



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- **Swimming**

With so many swimming lessons missed and water confidence just starting to improve again, we are anxious that swimming lessons continue. Lessons will therefore still go ahead but with a slightly reduced time in the water. This will ensure one class is changed and out of the changing rooms so that it can be cleaned before the next class go in. We will review this, but hope we are able to continue. The before school swimming group will continue as the low numbers mean we can keep that Covid secure, however the lunchtime booster will not be able to go ahead as there are too many children from different classes.

- **Assemblies:**

All assemblies will be virtual.

- **Before and after school clubs/Booster groups:**

Unfortunately, having only just started, we have to temporarily stop before and after school clubs as we are unable to keep the children in class groups.

In school booster groups WILL be able to continue as numbers are small and children can socially distance/sit next to someone only from their class.

To reassure parents, in addition to the above measures which we hope only need to be in place for a few weeks, we will continue with our enhanced cleaning, hand hygiene, tissues for sneezes and ventilation. Please remember that all of our staff do lateral flow tests twice weekly and have been doing so throughout the pandemic.

Thank you for your understanding with this situation. Please do not hesitate to contact the School Office if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S. Arnold
Head Teacher

