

Dear Parents and Carers

As you know, I have been contemplating allowing the children from each year group bubble to play out together for their daily playtime but I was previously a little concerned about rates of infection in the locality and decided to err on the side of caution.

Following the Easter break and the slight easing of restrictions, with infection rates being low and many more people having had their vaccinations, I am satisfied that we can now allow this to happen.

Everything will remain the same as now with year groups being split into 2 bubbles for all indoor activities and over lunchtime. From Monday 26th April, the change will be as follows. For one outdoor playtime each day, the cones down the centre of the playground will be removed and children can play with who they wish to within their year group. Before they go out to play they will sanitise their hands and on return to the classroom all children will wash their hands thoroughly (as now).

I think this is a measured and still fairly cautious approach at this stage which matches up with the recommencement of out of school sporting activities such as football, rugby, cricket and even swimming where children are mixing with other children of the same age but from different bubbles and sometimes different schools.

Transmission rates outdoors have always been exceptionally low so the risk of pupils spreading the virus on our large field/playground areas is negligible. Of course we do need to maintain indoor bubbles until we are told otherwise and all current arrangements will continue.

An additional benefit of allowing a whole year group to be outside together is that we can start to offer some outdoor after school activities, which we intend to do. Mr Inns will be in touch very soon outlining what will be on offer and when clubs will start.

Many thanks for your continued support during what has been a very difficult time for us all. The light at the end of the tunnel is starting to shine a little brighter now and, as long as we are careful and take a sensible approach, hopefully soon we will emerge from the tunnel and be able to live our lives more freely once again.

Yours truly,

Linda Laird

Mrs L J Laird

Headteacher