



Tuesday 17th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Covid Amber Measures

Some parents will be aware, from letters sent to individual year groups, that unfortunately once again there is an increasing number of children testing positive for Covid-19. As such, we have spoken with the LCRC (London Covid Response Cell) at Public Health England to advise them of these cases. **We have been advised that the school should return to 'Amber Measures' until at least Wednesday 1st December 2021, at which time the situation will be reviewed.**

We have been instructed to put the following measures in place with immediate effect:

- No after school clubs can run which have mixed year groups and are indoors. Specifically the following clubs WON'T be running until further notice: Y4&5 Dance, Y3&4 Chess, Love Theatre, Budding Artist, CATS, Martial Arts, Band, Junior Choir, Gymnastics and Taekwondo.
- Clubs which are outdoors can run.
- No assemblies in the main hall - online/class assemblies delivered in classes.
- No large groups of parents coming into school – any workshops would need to be online.
- Extra vigilance around handwashing and ventilation.
- Social distancing measures between staff to be followed wherever possible.
- Staff increased Lateral Flow Testing – where there are positive cases in a year group, staff will test daily. Other staff to test twice per week.
- No playground equipment to be used at lunchbreaks or playtimes unless this can be cleaned in between use by different year groups.
- Additional cleaning of any shared learning resources.
- Whole staff meetings to be held virtually.
- Face coverings to be worn by staff in staff rooms.

As this situation has evolved late afternoon/early evening today, there are still a couple of things that we are waiting advice on, namely, whether we are permitted to continue to run Hedgerows and whether we are permitted to partake in events with other schools, such as sports matches. As such, Hedgerows will run tomorrow (Thursday 18th November) and Friday 19th November and the football matches arranged for tomorrow and Friday will also proceed. I will update parents as soon as I can to confirm whether this will be the case for weeks commencing 22nd and 29th November. ...2/



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We have once again discussed lunchtimes in respect of children having their packed lunch and school dinner in the main hall and therefore mixing year groups, but LCRC advised that, as before, this should continue as it is important for children to have their school dinner. Enhanced cleaning measures are in place though between sittings.

Earlier today we sent out letters about our Christmas concerts/productions. It is with deep regret that this evening we have taken the difficult decision to cancel our Key Stage 2 Carol Concerts planned to take place at All Saints Church, Carshalton, following discussions with LCRC late this afternoon. Several things have been taken into consideration, not least the health and safety of our community. Additionally, given that we are unable to run band and choir until at least 1st December, with no guarantee that we can do so after that, with the first concert scheduled for 6th December, we would have no time to prepare. Please be assured that, just as we did last year, we will ensure that the children still enjoy celebrating this special time of year and will be providing recordings of Christmas singing for families to enjoy.

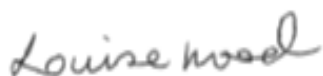
With regards to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 events, as these are organised differently, i.e. children from each year group do not come into contact with one another, at this stage we plan to continue with our Nursery Songs and Reception and Years 1 and 2 Christmas productions. What we cannot confirm now is whether we will be able to invite parents in to watch these live events. I have to say that I feel that this is unlikely. Please know that we are all deeply saddened by the prospect of this, but as with the Key Stage 2 concerts, we will absolutely ensure that the children do not miss out on putting on a performance. If parents can't safely be accommodated in school, we will record all such activities that the children participate in for parents to enjoy.

To reiterate, the Amber Measures are in place until 1st December 2021 and will be reviewed at this point, taking guidance from Public Health England/LCRC.

We do hope that those children who are at home aren't too poorly; please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any support.

Stay safe and well.

Kind regards



Louise Wood
Headteacher