

Coaley Church of England Academy

The Street, Coaley, Dursley, Gloucestershire, GL11 5EB Executive Headteacher Mr Richard Lucas t: 01453 890358 e: admin@coaley.gloucs.sch.uk www.coaleyacademy.co.uk



4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a relaxing Christmas break and have enjoyed a peaceful time with your families, staying safe and enjoying the food and festivities.

As I'm sure you know, things are changing rapidly at the moment with regards to COVID, and I wanted to update you on what we are doing to make school as safe as possible.

First of all, we will be open as normal tomorrow at the usual times. This will be the case from now on until we hear differently from the Government. However, given the infectious nature of this new variant, I think it is very sensible that we update our protocols and procedures and ask you to do the same. None of us wants to get ill or pass this terrible virus onto a vulnerable loved one. This is about saving lives and I cannot stress how seriously we are all taking it.

Below are a few of the changes we have made and want to make happen in school. The full Risk Assessment will be available on the school website later today. You can see the changes we have made each time as they are colour-coded.

We want to do everything we can to maintain good social distancing, keeping our hands clean and maintain the integrity of the class bubbles. So, to do this:

- 1. Please can we ask all parents to continue to wear masks while on the school site. In addition, can we also ask you to wear masks as you approach the school or if you are waiting outside the school to drop off or collect, including for Breakfast Club.
- 2. Please can we ask you to keep a 2m distance from one another at all times, while on the school site and whilst approaching or waiting outside of school.
- 3. Please leave the school as soon as you have dropped off or collected your child. Please will you communicate with us via Dojo from now on rather than at drop-off or pick-up times.
- 4. We will be doing extra cleaning and ensuring that there is good ventilation in all classrooms.
- 5. Please can we ask your child not bring anything in from home apart from their lunch, water bottle and a snack, and the books they are reading at home or homework
 - a. Please note that we will be quarantining reading books, therefore changing books might take a little longer.

- 6. All staff will be wearing face-masks in all communal areas around school
 - a. Staff are likely to wear some form of PPE during teaching time.
 - b. We are going to allow children from Y3 onwards to wear face-masks in communal areas if they wish.
- 7. We will be using hand sanitizer and handwashing as the children come in from every break-time.
- 8. We will make sure that bubbles do not mix as much as possible, including at break and lunchtimes. We have updated out protocols for children walking around the school.
- 9. TAs will be allocated to one class only each day.
- 10. Music and some peripatetic lessons will have to stop for the time being. We will contact you separately about this if this affects your child.

We will update this as we get more information and I welcome your views on how we can continue to keep the children and staff safe. I hope you can see that we take the safety of your child and our staff very seriously and are doing our very best to open the school safely.

Yours

Richard Lucas

Executive Headteacher