



MALCOLM SARGENT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Love To Learn

24 September 2020

Dear Parents

RE-OPENING UPDATE

Following the recent national announcements relating to the tightening of coronavirus restrictions, I am writing to update you on our school, and how these changes will affect us. Unfortunately, this promises to be a very challenging autumn and winter but I am pleased that primary schools remaining open has clearly been prioritised by the Government.

Pupil attendance has been very high in the first few weeks of this year. We are averaging 96% of pupils in school on any day, versus 87% nationally as reported on the BBC news. The behaviour of our pupils has been very good and they have adapted brilliantly to the new routines around school and in the classroom. It is not "business as normal" but it is working really well.

We have enjoyed unusually warm and sunny weather at the start of this term, which enabled picnics on the field and encouraged plenty of outdoor learning. As the weather begins to turn cooler and wetter, teachers will still be regularly taking the children outside. Although the picnics will be off, the children will continue to enjoy regular time outside including for PE, break and lunchtimes. The children should therefore come to school prepared appropriately, wearing coats etc.

Thank you for all of your support with home education during the summer lockdown period. You have done a really good job and it has meant that our children are in a very good place to spring forwards into their learning this term. Inevitably, there will be some gaps due to the disruption in the last academic year but our teachers and teaching assistants are working hard to identify these gaps and will then adjust their plans accordingly. We will be releasing further details of additional catch up support later this term.

The instruction to "work from home if possible" does impact our school office team. To allow for continued school operations, we are adapting our practises, which will mean that you will notice some changes at the office. These changes will not affect our delivery and the office will continue to be open, albeit with a skeleton staff, between 0830 and 1600 each day. There is an answerphone outside these times. We are still aiming to minimise visitors on site, so please contact the school via telephone or email if at possible and only visit the office in person if essential

You will also have noticed extra automatic hand sanitisers have been installed at external classroom exits. We are encouraging pupils to use these prior to entry to the classroom and upon leaving to be collected at the end of the day.

Finally, parent consultation meetings will be held by telephone this year at the end of this half term. Further details will be released in due course.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr T J Revell
Principal