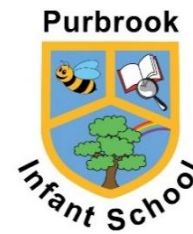




PURBROOK INFANT SCHOOL
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Headteacher: Lisa A de Carteret
Assistant Headteacher: Paul Stray
Business Manager: Hazel K Dean



18 July 2021

Dear Parents / carers

Further to the Government's recent announcement, we are writing to advise that for the last week of term, there will be **no** changes to our current Covid arrangements. As you will be aware, coronavirus cases are high and rising particularly quickly within school age children (1-14 and 15-19 year olds). It is crucial that everyone continues to act carefully and remain cautious as restrictions are eased. We feel that nobody will want to start the summer holidays having to isolate, so we hope to minimise the need for this and are hopeful that September will see the return of some normality.

This is the advice we have received from the Local Authority in regards to the last week of school:

As the Local Authority, we are asking for your support to help control further spread of the virus in the following ways:

- **Test and Trace processes** - keep both your testing and contact tracing processes and reporting to the Local Authority in place until the end of term – these processes have been working well and with your help, we can support a smooth transition to the new system that will be led by NHS Test and Trace and further supported by local tracing teams in future.
- **Face coverings** - within your school's risk assessments, please consider when face coverings could be worn in crowded areas going forward and advocate them still being worn on school or public transport after 19 July.
- **Vaccinations** - if you know anyone who is eligible to be vaccinated and who has not yet booked their jabs, encourage them to do so as soon as possible. This is to protect not just themselves but also their loved ones and their wider community. Vaccine information for people in Hampshire and extra information for young adults is available on Hampshire County Council's website.
- **Schools bubbles** - keep school bubbles intact until the end of this term.

In the meantime, we ask that you support us by continuing to wear your mask onsite, especially when entering the building or speaking with a teacher at the door. Whilst a few may not agree with this decision, our primary aim is to keep our pupils and staff as safe as possible, especially with such a rise in infection rates, we can get through this last week safely, I am sure.

Next term

As you will already be aware, one of the most significant changes to expect for the new school term will be that pupils will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. From the 16 August, contacts of positive cases will instead be advised to undertake a COVID-19 test, further information about testing for children is yet to come from PHE/DFE. Going forward, we will continue to have a role in working with health protection teams in the case of a local outbreak. With your support, I hope these actions will help in reducing the level of transmission and prevent a further rise in cases leading into, as well as after, the return from the summer break.

In September it is my plan that Breakfast and Beehive clubs will move back into the Early Years Area (previous space), class/ year group bubbles will no longer be in place and social distancing and face coverings will no longer be required. We will however, continue with good hygiene measures and good ventilation. We will also follow the school's Local Outbreak Management Plan to reduce the impact of the virus following a cluster of local infections. This will be shared on the school's website in September.

I want to take this opportunity to once again, thank you for your understanding, perseverance and support during these times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L A de Carteret', written over a horizontal line.

Mrs L A de Carteret

Headteacher