



Deerhurst and Apperley Church of England School

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Learning and living as children of God

(Ephesians 5:1) (You are God's children whom he loves. Try to be like God)

Dear Parents, Carers and Governors,

Monday 1st November 2021

COVID Update on procedures in school

The Local Authority are recommending schools review their risk assessment and outbreak management plans (both of these remain on our website for your information) in the context of rising case numbers, mixing during half term and their experience of outbreaks last term. We had three confirmed cases of COVID and to put that in perspective five are considered an outbreak. We need to continue to use all safety measures to keep our children in school and keep everyone safe.

Many schools and colleges have already taken the decision to reintroduce some measures and at Deerhurst and Apperley we too are reintroducing some of the following measures, temporarily, this term:

- May I request that when coming onto the school grounds please return to wearing a face covering, unless you are exempt
- Drop off and pick up times will remain the same but **we will return to a one-way system**. Everyone coming in through the small gate but then leaving through the large gate. This will recreate the one-way system again. This way we can also maintain social distance.
- Please come through the side gate and wait around the Mile A Day track next to the front fence if you are picking up children from Class R, Class 1 and Class 3, Please don't wait on the pathway leading into school as this will cause a gathering
- If your child is exiting from Class 2 please wait in the garden outside their room. The gates will be unlocked at 3.15pm, collect your child from there before going through the side gate to collect any other siblings

See Saw Home Learning Platform

- You have all been sent login details for the See Saw online learning platform and been asked to check it out. Please ensure you do so in the event we may need to use it for your child's Home Learning.

Clubs

- These will remain as planned; two clubs will be held outside (they may be subject to cancellations if weather conditions prevent outdoor running) two inside but in controlled year groups to reduce the risk of infection spreading. There will be no further action on clubs currently.

Book Look

- I am hopeful this will still go ahead, outside each classroom. I will ask that you wear face masks and stick to the areas that you need to go your child's classroom. I will send out further confirmed information nearer these dates.

Parent Evening Appointments

- You have been given the times of your appointments. It is likely that these will be reviewed and switched to telephone appointments. I will inform you nearer the time when I have up to date statistics on the infection rates in our area.

Worship

- Worship in school will be arranged differently in the hall. This is for your information and any parent worship invitations will be reviewed at the time.

Enterprise

- This will be slightly different to planned but it is hoped we can use outdoors and stagger the days/times. I will give you up to date information nearer the time



Nativity

- The date for this is a while away and we will review it nearer the time. I am sure we can put coats on if need be and do it outside to avoid big gatherings in the hall!

As you can appreciate the COVID situation is continually changing and it is anticipated it will change again as a result of half term mixing. I will try to keep things to as normal as possible for all of us but also doing everything I can to keep everyone safe. If we work together, we will keep safe together. Please keep handwashing, masking where appropriate and where possible keep testing to help to reduce the spread of infection.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- Keep indoor spaces as well ventilated as possible – let the fresh air in, even if for a short period a day
- Participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines

Yours sincerely



Mrs Jayne Neveu

Headteacher