



January 4th 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. Thank you to those who have contacted us and shown kindness and support regarding the difficult situation we all find ourselves in.

As ever, there are mixed views surrounding the return to school and I fully and wholeheartedly respect this and understand that we all see the situation from our own very different and individual personal circumstances.

As I write this letter I am pleased to say that Chuter Ede will be open to pupils from tomorrow and we are happy to welcome them back with us. I have heard of other schools across the country who do not have enough staff currently to remain open or whose staff have chosen to only provide remote learning for the next couple of weeks. I am grateful to my staff that I do not find myself in this position at present. However it is an ever changing picture.

I want to reassure you that our Risk Assessments remain robust and we will continue to apply common sense and caution in everything we do. I need you to continue to work with us though more than ever right now. Here's a reminder of the things you can do to support us:-

- Keep your child at home if they begin to show any of the symptoms of Covid or if they are generally unwell.
- Follow the Tier 4 guidance outlined by the Government. If you or your children are mixing with others and not socially distancing outside of school time, you are putting all of the families and staff and other children at risk.
- Stick to the timings of drop off and pick up to minimise congestion in and around the school grounds.
- Socially distance from staff and other families when you are in and around school grounds. For those who can, wear a mask or face covering when entering the school grounds.
- At pick up and drop off there should be one adult only- please don't see this as a social outing- again you are putting others at greater risk unnecessarily.
- Keep your younger children with you at all times- do not allow them to wander around the grounds and near other families.
- Stay in your collection zones.

- If you need to speak to a member of staff, please e-mail or phone and they will get back to you as soon as they can. Please don't enter the school building and if you do speak to any of the staff in the school grounds then please keep 2 metres apart.
- Please only go to the school office for essential reasons. If it can be done with a phonecall or e-mail then please opt for this.
- Finally, we ask for kindness. We are all only human, we are doing our best. Some of us have had Covid, currently have Covid or have loved ones who have had Covid. Sadly, there are staff who have lost loved ones through Covid. There are also staff who have lost loved ones in other ways during 2020. Like you, we all have our own battles and challenging personal circumstances that we are dealing with right now. A kind word, a smile and the understanding that many of you show us when problems arise is priceless and makes a huge difference to our well-being.

Please work with us on this- together we are stronger.

Warm regards,

Bernadette Hunter