



Northfield St. Nicholas Primary Academy

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Wednesday 23rd September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the government announcement last night the school is currently reassessing some of the arrangements we have in place to keep staff, children, parents and the wider community safe. We must be clear in our understanding that the country has been moved to Alert Level 4 (Covid19 epidemic in general circulation; transmission high or rising exponentially).

We have considered that as the likelihood is that the COVID19 virus becomes more prevalent it would seem sensible to encourage staff as well as parents to wear face coverings in the school grounds during busy times at the start and end of the school day where it becomes increasingly challenging to maintain the 2m safe space from others.

We will be continuing to ask for your support by strongly advising parents and carers to wear face coverings if they are able to do so when coming on site (both outdoors and inside) to help us to clearly demonstrate a commitment to the national safety message of Hands , Face, Space

The school has ordered a supply of face visors for staff to wear when they meet and greet outside at the start of the day and dismiss children directly to adults at the end of the day. If we are unable to source enough then some staff may use material face coverings during these times. This is because it is becoming increasingly hard for staff to both interact with parents and maintain safe spaces and because the risk of transmissions is likely to rise given the current message from the central government.

We will still expect parents and carers to respect the 2m guidelines and keep children under close control during pick up and drop off times. Please be patient around busy exits and entrances - allow extra time and think about adjusting your arrival times to avoid the busiest times. Doors are open from 8.40am-8.55am and from 3.15pm to 3.30pm to help prevent large gatherings and over crowded walkways. (Year 6 are the only year group who still have a 3.25pm finish time.)

Children and staff will still not be expected to wear material face coverings inside the school building. Face visors may be used by some staff when appropriate to do so to carry out certain tasks which might risk breaking the safe space guidance. This will include the admin team in the front office.

Once again, regardless of individual opinions on face coverings, promoting their use at key times is a way for us to demonstrate to the community we take safety of ourselves and others seriously and are all trying to do our best to keep everyone safe in these difficult and most challenging times.

Thank you for your on-going support and patience at this uncertain time.

Yours sincerely

Mr I. W. Owens
Headteacher

LOOK SMART, THINK SMART, BE SMART.

The Northfield St Nicholas way !

Learning Leadership Enjoyment Responsibility Inspiration Inclusion Integrity

