

PORTISHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning and achieving together

Friday 16th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are motoring towards the end of the school year at high speed and have had a wonderful week of sports, health and wellbeing activities, including many visitors leading unique activities (thanks Mrs Moss for organising).

Thank you for your continued diligence as we manage the local increase in cases and numbers of staff and families in self-isolation. Today we have had the heart-breaking news that one year 6 class and some other children have had to stay at home. Our thoughts are with all affected.

Covid 19 Update

Before we confirm final arrangements for the new school year and say our goodbyes next Wednesday, here is a summary of how the Covid 19 Road Map will impact on us in September:

Continue:

- No one coming on to school site if they have symptoms or a positive test.
- Hand and respiratory hygiene.
- Ventilation.
- Arrangements if someone develops symptoms in school.
- Providing free school meal support to any pupils who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals and who are learning at home during term time.
- Asymptomatic testing at home for staff.
- Maintain capacity to deliver high quality remote education for next academic year, including for pupils who are abroad, and facing challenges to return due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, for the period they are abroad.
- Increased school cleaning of common touch points, classrooms and toilets.
- Maintain current PPE and face coverings for dealing with suspected cases.
- Arrangements to manage an outbreak.
- To encourage asymptomatic community testing.

Specific changes in September

- **No bubbles** - unless subject to local restrictions when existing or previous RAs could be reintroduced.
- Face coverings will no longer be advised for staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas - unless subject to local restrictions when existing or previous RAs could be reintroduced.
- Most staff in schools will not require PPE beyond what they would normally need for their work.
- Assemblies will continue on Teams but be slowly reintroduced in the school hall.
- No special lunch arrangements required.
- Schools not required to contact trace from Monday.
- Staff should undertake twice weekly home tests whenever they are on site until the end of September, when this will also be reviewed.
- Trips we recommence for all year groups with appropriate risk assessments.

Consequential Changes

- No social distancing.
- Volunteers can return to school.
- Resources can be shared across classes and year groups.
- Soft furnishings can return.
- The full curriculum will return.
- Parents can attend school sites without restriction.
- No need for staggered starts, breaks and lunches – **we will be confirming the timings of the school day next week.**
- Public performances can return – children will be back on stage!!
- Face to face meetings can resume, though we will continue to use Teams where it is beneficial to stakeholders.

As we prepare for the new school year we will update you next week with any other changes we will be implementing. Some adaptations that we were forced to make have proved beneficial and we are finalising our review of these based on staff and parent feedback.

Kind Regards,

Richard Riordan

Headteacher