

18th March 2022

Dear Morden Families,

RE: PROPOSED CHANGES MOVING FORWARDS

We would like to thank you for your support with the management of the covid pandemic. Like you, we are very keen to learn how we can live with covid yet remain safe. As such, it has been with trepidation that we make further changes moving forwards. Decisions are made ever-more difficult when Merton is once again facing rising covid numbers and outbreaks across many primary schools. Currently we have 8 active cases that we are aware of and we would encourage families to continue to use LFTs whilst they remain free.

We have reviewed risk assessments and parent/staff/pupil questionnaires (the Adopt/Adjust/Avoid approach). Quite simply, there are some aspects of pre-covid school life that we will not return to because the pandemic forced us to view many things differently (often as a result of late, last minute announcements) and some of the enforced changes actually worked better for the children.

Whilst many statutory legal requirements have been ceased, as a school we are able to implement guidelines that enable us to ensure risk assessments are adhered to. Changes will be methodical to enable us to review the impact of each stage as it occurs.

PARENTS- DROP OFF/COLLECTION

No changes will be made until after Easter.

GATES

No changes will be made until after Easter - will remain as they currently are. We are reviewing entrances/exits for all classes.

PARENTS – OFFICE FROM MONDAY 21st MARCH

- 1. The Office is open in person from 9.15am-2.30pm. At other times, you will be able to contact the office via phone or email.**
2. The office will not be open during drop off/collection time as staff are supporting at the gates.
3. During the day, parents may come to the office reception area.

Headteacher: Mrs P. Blow
Acting Deputy: Mr J.Carrington
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4. A maximum of 2 adults should be in the reception area. Please ensure you are socially distancing within the reception area. *Any extra adults should wait on the entrance ramp until space becomes available.*

PARENTS – ON SITE MEETINGS

Appointments must be pre-arranged to speak with a specific member of staff.

POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST/DEVELOPING SYMPTOMS

Parents and staff should use common sense judgement. Children should not be sent to school if they have an upset tummy, high temperature or nasty cold. Please don't just dose them up with calpol and send them in as all illnesses, regardless of what they are, can spread through the school. Whilst reporting positive covid cases are no longer statutory, significant staff absences due to illness may impact our ability to remain open. We are still required to inform Merton Public Health on a daily basis our covid numbers and in addition complete forms for the DfE each week.

VACCINATIONS

"We recommend all school staff and eligible pupils take up the offer of a vaccine." (p.11 of guidance)

MANDATORY CERTIFICATION

"Mandatory certification is no longer in place and so venues and events are not required by law to use the NHS COVID Pass as a condition of entry, but some may do so voluntarily." (p.11) Whilst passes will no longer need to be shown, Morden Primary would prefer visitors to continue to wear masks when inside the building.

REMOTE EDUCATION

Unless the school is forced to close via public health, there will not be a need for remote education. Work will not be provided for children who are off school unwell as we wouldn't expect them to work at home if they are absent due to being poorly.



Mrs P. Blow
Headteacher



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