



2/11/20

Dear Parent / Carer,

**RE: COVID-19 TERM TWO UPDATE**

I hope you are safe and have enjoyed the half term break with the opportunity for some quality family time together. I wanted to write to you today following the Prime Minister's announcement on Saturday that the UK will be going into a second national lockdown.

Unlike during the first lockdown, schools are remaining open and I can reassure you that we are taking this responsibility extremely seriously. This letter will outline any updated measures we will be putting in place to keep everyone at Meon Junior School safe.

In addition, and in the interests of staying safe my team and I have taken the decision to move Meon Junior School from a 0 to a Level 1, in terms of safety measures.

**WHAT DOES LEVEL 1 MEAN?**

Level 1 means additional measures of control on top of the current measures at our school:

- Closure of shared spaces such as specialist learning spaces outside the classroom that are accessed by more than one year group bubble in a day. As the hall is cleaned between our upper and lower school lunchtimes, this can remain open.
- Clear marking out of safety zones throughout the school
- Staff will wear face mask in communal areas

The safety measures we already have in place on school grounds are now more important to help curb the spread of Covid-19 at a time when positive cases seem to be rising nationally.

Please take the time to read through our parent handbook again to remind yourself of the measure we have put in place.

<https://www.meonjuniorschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Reopening-Parent-Handbook-30th-September-2020-1.pdf>

We need your continued support to ensure the school community is kept safe at the start and the end of the school day. Please ensure your child uses the correct gate and is picked up at the correct time. Whilst waiting on the playground, face masks must be worn by all not exempt and social distancing need to be observed. Please leave the site promptly and avoid gathering in groups of parents outside of the school gates. Use year group emails and phone to communicate with school staff safely.

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As we reflect on the Government's announcement, I would like to remind all families of some of the key safety measures already in place at our school.

## 1. MANAGING SICKNESS AND REPORTING

Please remember that you must not send your child to school if they are unwell or displaying any symptoms of Covid-19.

- New continuous cough.
- High temperature.
- Loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

We are going beyond the Government advice regarding Track & Trace by using additional control measures such as seating plans. Therefore, we are able to quickly identify any member of our school community that needs to take action such as self-isolating. In the event of a positive test result, we will inform Public Health England (PHE) and follow their advice.

## 2. SAFETY ON SCHOOL SITES

We require all parents, carers, adults and visitors to our schools to wear a face covering. This includes when dropping off children at the school gates and entering the school grounds / buildings for any other reason. Social distancing and one way systems are in place for all pupils, teachers, staff and visitors.

## 3. SAFETY AND CLEANING

Ensuring that our school is kept clean is a key part of our plan. This means regular cleaning of all shared spaces including classrooms, corridors, and toilets. Hand washing remains the principal means of securing hand hygiene and this will be easily accessible throughout school.

### FINAL NOTE...

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the last term. It is so important that parents feel safe to send their children to school; as we all know early education is critical to a child's development so they can learn within a structure built for their needs, as well as added benefits of socially interacting with their friends, and teachers.

My team and I are proud of the school community we've built and empathise and understand the worries we are all facing. Please know that we are committed to supporting our families as we all adapt to the changes in the world, and we feel privileged that schools are staying open reinforcing the importance of education.

If you have any urgent questions please email [office@meonjuniorschool.org.uk](mailto:office@meonjuniorschool.org.uk) and we will respond as fast and as best we can. Further information will be published on the school site as and when it occurs.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Sara Paine

Head teacher