

Monday 1st January 2021

Reopening of School from January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I really hope that over the winter break you and your families have been able to enjoy some quality time together – despite the restrictions that have been put in place locally and nationally. I only apologise that I am communicating with you on the 1st day of the New Year! However, it is important for you all to be aware of the announcement made in Parliament on the 30th December 2020.

The government has placed Gloucestershire in Tier 4 – defined as '**rapidly rising levels of infection**' in our area. The general definition is that you must stay at home/inside except to go to work if unable to work from home, school or essential shopping. A list of the guidance is on the last page of this letter.

I am writing today to confirm that as of Monday 4th January 2021 the **school will be open to all children**. Below are reminders of the information sent to you previously, so as to fresh in all our minds how we can continue to keep the school open and as safe as possible.

- The Risk Assessment for our school remains in place and is still available on our website if you wish to read it in full. This is reviewed regularly to ensure it remains relevant and is based on the current government guidance.
- Children will continue to be taught in **class bubbles**. This will mean that they will be able to eat, play, learn etc. as a class and we will continue to operate the school as normal as possible. Staff will remain as consistent as possible within the class bubble.
- **PE remains the same** and the days remain unchanged. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately (school PE kit ONLY) whether they arrive to school in PE kit or not.
- **Travelling to school remains the same.** The government would like us to encourage all families to walk, cycle, scoot etc. to school. This would help us greatly as we continue to have complaints from the local residents of inappropriate parking, showing a lack of consideration when dropping and collecting children. Please be mindful of where and how you park your car. According to the government's current COVID restriction, families from different households should not share cars.
- **Start and End Times and Arrival times.** These are unchanged from the Autumn term.

Start of the day/Drop off time	End of the day/Collection time
8:40 – 9:00am	3:00 – 3:20pm

Please can I remind that **you should not be mixing with other parents** – or allow your child to, on or off school site. Please leave the site immediately after dropping/collecting your child at the beginnings and ends of the day and remain 2 plus metres from other families, children and staff at all times. I appreciate that some parents may walk slower, but it is vitally important that you remain socially distanced, follow the one way system, avoid over taking and be patient. If your child walks to school on their own, please can you reinforce this message.

- **Please avoid being late to school to drop or collect your child.** This compromises the safety of all. I'm sure that you can appreciate that the school office area is a small compact place, which needs to be free of people as much as possible.



2019-2022



- Only one parent/adult should be on school site. Older secondary school siblings should not be coming onto school site with you.
- Please try to avoid 'popping into' the school office area. Please telephone or email in all messages and queries: Tel – 01452 527689, admin@caltonprimary.co.uk

Staff will continue to wear face coverings and **we ask that you (more so that ever) continue to wear face coverings when on school site.**

Covid19 symptoms, testing and holidays:

If your child displays any symptoms of Covid19 at any point, we ask you to book a test before they return to school. If you or your child displays any of these symptoms, then you must not send them to school and the whole family must self-isolate until a negative test is returned. According to the NHS, the main symptoms of Covid19 are:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

You can arrange a test by visiting this link: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Once you have the outcome of the test results, **please inform the school** as usual.

If over the holiday anyone in your household has been unwell with Covid19, please follow the guidance and send an email to reporting@caltonprimary.co.uk. This continues to be important if you have developed symptoms over the last few days. We will be in contact with you to discuss your child's return date.


If your family has been abroad over the Christmas holidays, please ensure that you check and comply with any associated travel quarantine guidance before your child returns. Please ensure that you inform the school accordingly.

- Please remind your child before they return to school about appropriate respiratory hygiene – use of tissue, which they throw away immediately and how to wash their hands fully and for how long.

Finally, we do appreciate that you and your child may feel apprehensive following the government announcements. We do feel well placed as a school to weather these challenges and will do our very best to reassure you, providing as much as possible a safe site for all. However, we can only do this with your support. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate in contacting the school – admin@caltonprimary.co.uk / 01452 527689.

I look forward to seeing you all again next week and hope that you enjoy the last few days of holiday – Happy New Year!

Best wishes and stay safe



Jane Barker-Doe
Operational Head Teacher