

CALTON

PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Tuesday 4th May 2021

COVID update

With the country slowly coming out of lockdown and many outdoor activities for children now starting up, we felt as a school we needed to look at the measures that we currently have in place and revise and revisit accordingly.

Since returning to school in September we have had class bubbles; this meaning that the children and staff only mix with that class. There have been many limitations to this, not least that children are unable to see friends in other year groups; Teachers/Learning Partners are unable to work with other children of similar ability across the other 2 classes; 21 staggered lunch and break times; limited space and resources to play with during these times. Ultimately this has impacted on the children and the experiences that we have been able to offer. The C19 group, which is made up of Senior Leaders and Governors, have continued to meet every two weeks to discuss the COVID measures and update the Risk Assessment accordingly. To this end it has been decided that as of **10th May** we will move to year group bubbles.

Our decision to create year group bubbles has been taken for a wide range of reasons following extensive risk assessment and in line with guidance from the Government, Public Health England and the Department for Education. These now have been made so we can provide more experiences for our children whilst in school.

Teachers and Learning Partners will now work across one year group bubble including our lunchtime supervisors. Our Learning Partners will work with individuals, groups of children across all three classes in and out of the classroom and will be available during unstructured times with their year group bubble. This is what happened before Covid. Other factors that have been considered include provision and access to online remote learning (we are far better equipped with online remote learning now), child and staff well-being and safety, layout of the school building and use of our outside spaces as zones for each year group, providing more space and resources for children to play. We will of course continually monitor and review measures in line with Government guidance. All decisions have been made in the children's best interest and with safety at heart, whilst not underestimating the impact that isolating whole year group bubbles has for our Calton families.

What does this mean for my child?

We will continue to adopt a variety of protective measures to create and maintain a safe environment, protecting children, parents and staff.



Calton Primary School, Calton Road, Gloucester GL1 5ET

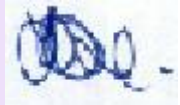
Some of the key protective measures include:

- Extending the start and finish times across the school;
- placing children in year group bubbles;
- keeping groups of children and the adult(s) they are with consistent;
- limiting the amount of contact children and staff have with others within the school;
- increased hygiene measures, including frequent hand washing and cleaning of resources;
- staggering break and lunchtimes for pupils and staff;
- planning for a variety of outdoor learning opportunities;
- asking that children do not bring personal possessions to school aside from their book and wow book;
- asking that only one adult drops-off and collects children to limit the number of adults around the school site;
- all staff wearing masks in and around the school site;
- staff being tested twice weekly.

If as parents you wish to take further measures, you can order home Lateral Flow Test (LFT) kits to do twice weekly. These can be ordered through the Gov website <https://www.gov.uk>

We really appreciate all the positive comments that we have received either verbally or by email along with your support and understanding at this time.

Kind regards



Jane Barker-Doe
Acting Head Teacher