



Monday, 07 September 2020

### **Day 1 – Covid-19 arrangements update and confirmations**

Dear Parent,

Following our first morning I thought it would be helpful to communicate with all families to confirm our arrangements ready for day 2.

## **1. Arrival**

Firstly, please accept my apologies. I did send Year 5 & 6 around to the Ladydell Rd Entrance this morning. This was contrary to what had been communicated to parents and, rightly, parents have raised questions about this with us today.

Given the volume of people arriving at the Chesswood Rd entrance this morning an immediate decision was necessary to reduce the volume of adults and children queuing on the pavement therefore reducing transmission risk.

As Year 4 parents, understandably, wait with their children until they enter, it became clear, very quickly, that there was not enough space outside the entrance to accommodate everyone and allow other pavement users past. We hope the changes below will help address arising aspects from this morning. This has led to a more permanent change for Y5 & 6 entry to school premises.

**From Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September we would ask children and families to follow this updated guidance on arrival at school:**

- **Year 3** There are no changes to original guidance – enter via the Chesswood Rd Car Park. However, **please do not arrive before 8:45 a.m. at the school gates**. If you think you will arrive before 8:45 please wait in an open space such as Homefield Park – it is then only a 2 minute walk from there to arrive between 8:45 and 8:55. Please continue to drop off and leave immediately after to reduce the volume of adults at or near the school premises.
- **Year 4** There are no changes to original guidance - children enter at the Ladydell or Chesswood Rd entrance. Could we ask parents to **arrive no later than 8:35 a.m.** this will help reduce the volume of people on Chesswood Rd when Year 3 arrive.
- **Year 5 and 6** children enter at the Ladydell Rd entrance only reducing congestion on Chesswood Rd.
  - If there are exceptional circumstances e.g. mobility difficulties for child or parent dropping off, Y5 & 6 children may enter at the Chesswood Rd entrance.
  - **Year 5 should not arrive before 8:45 a.m. at the school gates.**
  - **Year 6 should not arrive after 8:40 a.m. at the school gates**

**There are no changes for the arrangement of sibling arriving at school – the older sibling may use the younger siblings entrance**



## 2. Leaving and collection

**Year 3** there are no changes – enter via the Chesswood Car Park entrance

**Year 4** one adult may enter the Chesswood rd playground to collect their child from the play ground. All Y4 children MUST leave through the Chesswood Rd car park – staff will be available in the coming days to guide you through that route.

**Year 5 and 6** – There are no changes they will All leave through the Ladydell Road exit unless there are exceptional circumstances.

**There are no changes for siblings collection.**

## 3. Queueing at entrances

We would ask all families to recognise reducing risk for all needs to be a team effort. It is also important to note that a small number of families have been shielding throughout recent months. Please be sensitive to the need of other and keep at least 1 metre distancing when queueing and 2m wherever possible. We know this will be a challenge but it will be easier when the maximum number of families possible do everything possible to follow these guidelines at busy drop off and collection times.

With regard to wearing face masks when queueing there is no guidance to suggest families should do this. However, we would ask adults to have face masks with them unless exempt (and no adult need to prove exemption we need to trust everyone is trying to do the right thing) and use them if, for whatever reason, the 1m+ spacing is compromised. We cannot enforce this or closely monitor the queueing – we will rely on families on following the social distancing guidance and being sensitive to the needs of others.

**When queueing it is vital that families stay as close to the wall and fence as possible. This will allow other families and pedestrian to walk past safely.**

It is certain that we will need to make further adjustments and reinforce particular points in the coming days and weeks as new circumstances arise or are brought to our attention. There is no single perfect plan so we are seeking to adjust measures to improve everyone's experience and reduce transmission risk responsibly and reasonable requests. **We communicate such changes with parents through schoolsbuddy, facebook and twitter to ensure the widest and most inclusive communication possible.** We fully expect things to settle into a good rhythm in the coming days.

Please remember any letter and communication sent out to parents may be found for your future reference at:

<https://www.chesswood.w-sussex.sch.uk/page/?title=Current+Academic+Year+Correspondence&pid=780>

Finally, despite these confirmations and adjustments today has gone spectacularly well. Children in all year groups have been brilliant. Our new Year 3 children have been so brave walking into the playground on their own today – it was a big ask and they have been absolutely fantastic. I hope when children arrive home tonight they will have enjoyed their day and after a good night's rest will be keen to get back into school again tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,