



Swanmore Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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Dear Parents

In preparation for the second national lockdown the DfE has published updated guidance for schools. In essence, much of it has remained the same:

“Schools continue to remain open for all children and young people as they have since the start of the autumn term for the duration of the national restrictions.

Being at school is vital for children’s education and for their wellbeing. Time spent out of school is detrimental for children’s cognitive and academic development, particularly for disadvantaged children. This impact can affect both current levels of education, and children’s future ability to learn. It continues to be our aim that all pupils, in all year groups, remain in school full-time.

The risk to children themselves of becoming severely ill from coronavirus (COVID-19) is very low and there are negative health impacts of being out of school. For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in the classroom far outweigh the low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19) and schools can take action to reduce risks still further.”

We will continue with our COVID-19 provisions to support the community.

FACE COVERINGS

Regarding face coverings the guidance states, “primary schools and education settings teaching year 6 and below, there is no change to the existing position. It is not mandatory for staff and visitors to wear face coverings. In situations where social distancing between adults in settings is not possible (for example when moving around in corridors and communal areas), settings have the discretion to recommend the use of face coverings for adults on site, for both staff and visitors.”

**We will now ask that if you are in the building for a meeting, that a face covering is worn.
If you would like to wear a face covering outside, you are of course very welcome to do so.**

SOCIAL DISTANCING AND FORTHCOMING CHANGES TO YEAR R DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES

The significant point that cannot be stressed enough, is to **distance 1m+** outside. Year R’s area does make this more challenging because of the space available so we will offer a window of time to drop off and pick up your children. We will write next week with details of the change and when it will start.

PARENTS' EVENINGS AND REPORTS

Where we had hoped to manage the upcoming parents' evenings on site in person, we will now not be able to achieve that. To share your child's work and progress with you, we will:

- send their English, maths and a subject of their choice books home on Friday, 20th November, to be returned on the Monday, 23rd November. These will then be quarantined before circulation back into class
- as with previous meetings, issue the assessment statements for the year group. These will show where your child is currently achieving- bearing in mind it is likely some children will not have 'caught back up' from the pre-COVID situation
- where your teacher or your feel there is a need to discuss issues which you have not addressed to that point, a phone call can be arranged through the office – please email adminoffice@swanmore-pri.hants.sch.uk

As always, please do speak to a member of the team if you need support.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

We are very much planning to have a festive Christmas and will share plans for this as we near "that time of year"!

Yours sincerely

J Paterson
Headteacher