



Wednesday 7th July, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I am sure you will be aware, yesterday Education Secretary Gavin Williamson announced that from 16<sup>th</sup> August pupils will no longer have to self-isolate if they are a close contact of someone who tests positive for coronavirus and that mask wearing and social distancing will also end as part of the next step in lockdown easing, which Boris Johnson has said he hopes will be on 19<sup>th</sup> July.

As such, I am writing today to offer some clarity and reassurance about what the end of term will look like at Rackham.

Our Governing board discussed the announcement at length last night, and we have consulted extensively with the Local Authority, who have shared with us some alarming data about Covid infection rates in Cambridgeshire. The number of confirmed cases have risen dramatically in recent weeks, with 504 new lab-confirmed Covid-19 cases detected in Cambridgeshire in the latest reporting week, 18 – 24 June 2021.

The sharp rise in confirmed pupil cases is alarming and is demonstrated here:

Confirmed Cases	Cambridgeshire	Peterborough
W/C 24 <sup>th</sup> May	8	8
W/C 7 <sup>th</sup> June	39	8
W/C 14 <sup>th</sup> June	38	10
W/C 21 <sup>st</sup> June	71	29
W/C 28 <sup>th</sup> June	176	78

You will appreciate that the Government's current rules must be adhered to until the 19<sup>th</sup> July, however the Local Authority have advised that all current preventative measures need to remain in place until the end of term. This means that for the gap between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> July, **our current procedures and protective measures will remain exactly as they are.**

We are excited about the prospect of running our school in a more 'normal' way come September, and we will be consulting with parents about how this will look for Rackham in due course.

Please rest assured, the safety and well-being of our pupils, their families and our staff will remain our chief priority.

It is more important than ever before that we remain vigilant in our approach to the virus. The whole community has worked incredibly hard to reach this point in the year with minimal disruption to our bubbles and we all recognise how important it is for our children to enjoy their end of year activities in school. Bubble closures are happening across the entire nation at an alarming rate presently and there is huge disappointment in these schools for the staff and pupils alike. It is crucial we all work together and continue to do everything we can to ensure all of our pupils can remain in school until the very last day of term.

Thank you for your continued patience, cooperation and support. We are truly grateful.

Kind regards,



Headteacher, Rackham (CE) Primary School.

