

Tuesday 15th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter. Our end of term plans had all relied on Covid-19 restrictions being lifted on June 21st. We were looking forward to returning to normal and being able to invite parents and families into school.

Unfortunately, following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday evening, we have been forced to revise our plans. We have always taken a very cautious approach with regards to what we can and can't offer. We have tried to retain the integrity of our 'bubbles' and have limited social interaction. I am proud of what we have done as I believe that we have safeguarded the health of our children, families and members of staff. We have had very few incidents of Covid-19 unlike many other schools.

With this in mind and in light of Government guidance, I have taken the difficult decision of having to ask my schools to limit what they had planned to do. We are cancelling face-to-face activities that involve the mixing of bubbles and the integration of children and staff from other settings into our schools. I know that this will be upsetting, as we all want to get back to normal, but unfortunately the new Delta variant is very contagious and is spreading rapidly and I am concerned for the health and safety of all. We are already receiving reports that this new variant is in our localities.

The following activities will therefore be affected by this decision:

- Transition into school for nursery and reception children
- End of year productions
- End of year leavers' services
- End of year community events
- End of year trips which involve the mixing of bubbles
- Sports days

Your individual school will contact you with more information about the above events and how they will be conducted Covid securely.

I would like to reassure parents that we will do everything in our power to ensure that the end of term is memorable for all our children. I would also like to reassure parents and carers of children new to our schools, that based on our experience last year when we were unable to offer face to face transition days for Nursery and Reception, that this did not adversely affect the children's ability to settle in September.

Once again, I would like to stress that this decision has not been taken lightly and it is with the best of intentions to ensure the safety of all following the Government's most recent announcement.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P J Lovern

Chief Executive Officer

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