



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

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Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

Head of School: Jonathan Souter

24 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 5 Parent Update - Precautionary covid measures in school

I would like to congratulate all of the children in Year 5 on the way that they have responded to the temporary measures we put in place in school yesterday and today, as we take precautions to prevent the spread of covid in the year group and in school. I am writing today to update you on how we will proceed in school next week, including information on how we will cater for children who have purchased meals in school at lunch times and also some updated extra-curricular news.

- The start time of the school will be staggered for children in year 5.
- Children should continue to arrive at school at 8:55am.
- Children in Year 5 will go straight to their form classes where they will be met by their teachers.
- Year 5 children will stay in their year group bubble and all lessons will be taught in their form rooms.
- Children will play in a designated area of the yard at break and lunch times and will not mix with other children in school until further notice.
- On PE days (Mondays and Thursdays), Year 5 children will be required to arrive at school dressed in their PE kit. This will continue on Mondays and Thursdays until further notice in order to remove the need to use the PE changing facilities on site, which is shared with other year groups.
- **Swimming lessons for children in class 5C will also start on Monday 27th September in PE lessons so they will also need to bring their swimming kit and a towel.**
- **Hot and cold meals from the school canteen will be available again from Monday**, however all lunches will be consumed in form rooms at lunch time, whether it be a purchased meal or a packed lunch brought in from home. Hot and cold meals purchased on site will be served in disposable packaging to allow the children to carry their meals back to their form rooms. Payment for purchased meals should be made in the usual way.
- Teaching and support staff who work in year 5 will be required to wear a mask.
- School clubs will be temporarily cancelled for children in year 5 until further notice, with the exception of Dodgeball which will run on a Monday after school until 4.30pm.
- Children will be dismissed from school at the end of each day at 3:35pm until further notice.
- Year 5 staff will make a phone call to parents on Monday evening instead of the planned face to face meetings.

We would again like to thank parents, carers and children for their support (and patience) in respect of this unexpected disruption to the start of the school year. We would like to again stress that we expect this to be a temporary measure, in order to protect all members of the school community and that should your child present with any covid symptoms, you should not send them to school and should organise an immediate pcr test. Parents and carers may choose to conduct regular lateral flow tests at home as an extra protective measure. We will continue to review the situation in school on a day by day basis. We hope everyone in the year group has a good weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday (in their PE kit)!

Yours faithfully

Mr J K Souter
Head of School