



Lydiard Millicent CE Primary School

The Butts

Lydiard Millicent

Swindon

Wiltshire

SN5 3LR

Headteacher: Mrs Carly Luce

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very Happy New Year to you all! Whilst 2021 has started with some challenges for us all, we do hope that you and your families managed to have an enjoyable Christmas.

I'd like to start by expressing my gratitude for the amount of support that has already been shown to the school at the start of this term. The current situation is a very challenging one and I think the best thing is to explain the situation as it stands at the time of writing although we are all very aware of how quickly things can change and the Prime Minister is due to make an announcement at 8pm this evening. Should the announcement change the current situation for our school, we will write to you again this evening to provide clarity about what will be happening from tomorrow. Unfortunately, we do not have any other details about the announcement at this stage.

**The current situation is as follows:**

The school is in Tier 3 and we currently have enough staff to ensure the effective running of the school. We have reviewed our risk assessments and updated these. It is not possible to remove the risk of Covid-19, as with any organisation, we are required to take all reasonable steps to reduce transmission of the virus. We have submitted these assessments to the DBAT Board of Trustees.

This means that, as things stand, until we are directed otherwise, our school remains open for all pupils. We do understand the difficult position that staff and parents are in. Attendance is expected at this time but if you make the decision that you will not be sending your child to school, then please contact us (through the School Office).

**Protective Measures Update**

As you know, when we fully reopened to all children in September, we put a number of protective measures in place and we review these regularly. These were also reviewed and tightened further during the lockdown at the end of last year. These continue to apply and further information about how we are keeping our children and staff as safe as possible can be found on our Autumn Term 2020 page of the school website. These include, but are not limited to:

- Additional cleaning routines throughout the day in classrooms and in communal areas.
- Regular handwashing throughout the day.
- Asking that parents/carers wear a face mask/covering when on the school premises.
- Requiring all visitors to the school to wear a face mask/covering when entering the building and in communal areas.

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- Reducing the number of visitors to the site.
- Staggered drop off and pick up times – a reminder of these times is below.
- Only one adult per family should be accessing the school site for drop-off and pick-ups and that the social distancing markers and one way system must be used.
- Conversations should not be taking place on the door between parents and teachers.
- The School Office is closed. Messages must be passed on via telephone or email.
- Children should bring everything they need to school to reduce the need for parents to bring items to the office during the school day.

We will continue to keep things as calm and 'normal' as possible for the children and we will continue to keep you updated as, and when, things change. We remain very grateful for the support we are receiving from you all as we work together with the shared aim of keeping our school family as safe as possible.

We would be grateful if you could complete the ParentMail form sent with this letter so that our database on critical workers is correct. In the event of a school closure to all but provision for children of critical workers and those identified as vulnerable, we would make contact directly with families whose children meet the definition of vulnerable.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Mrs C Luce

Principal