

Dear Parents,

We hope that you and your families have been able to enjoy a happy, safe break over the last couple of weeks. Things definitely felt different this year!

As you will probably have seen in the news yesterday afternoon, the Secretary of State for Education announced that *most* primary schools in England will open for face-to-face teaching from next Monday 4th January, except for those in particular hotspots with the highest rates of covid transmission. Whilst Gloucestershire has been moved from Tier 2 into Tier 3 and now Tier 4 over the last two weeks, the county has not been identified as one of these hotspots. This means that our school will be open for face-face lessons for all year groups from Monday 4th January.

All of the covid secure measures that were in place before the break will continue to apply from next week, including:

- Staggered drop off and collection times
- Fixed bubbles with no movement between
- Face coverings for adults whilst on site and in the areas around the school such as car parks (scarves and bandanas are not suitable)
- Telephone / email correspondence wherever possible
- No non-essential visitors
- Items transferring between home and school kept to essentials only

Please continue to help us make the end of the day arrangements work by sticking to your pick-up time and not arriving early, particularly if using the Village Hall car park. There is additional parking at the church across the road which is much quieter.

PE for all year groups starts again next week and children should come to school in their PE kit on their day:

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|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| • Monday | Rubies & Sapphires | Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 |
| • Tuesday | Pearls and Emeralds | Years 1 and 2 |
| • Wednesday | Pearls and Emeralds | Years 1 and 2 |
| • Thursday | Diamonds | Reception |

To avoid mixing staff and year groups across bubbles there will be no after school clubs again this term.

As last term, we continue to need to use the field at play times and lunch time in order to keep bubbles apart. Given the weather we are experiencing, children will at the very least need a coat every day, possibly hat and gloves too. They are welcome to bring in a spare pair of trainers, wellies and waterproofs if they wish. These should be left in school until half term.

We will be in touch again early next week with clear details of how reading, spellings and homework will work across the school this term.

Attached to this email for your reference is the government *Tier 4 – Stay at Home* poster which outlines what is and isn't allowed in Tier 4. If you haven't already, please take the time to familiarise yourself.

We are looking forward to seeing the children again on Monday and working with you all over the next term to keep both your families and our staff as safe as we possibly can.

Mr Gibson, Mrs Kelsey, Mr Rickaby.