

'A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together'

Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School

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COVID UPDATE

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of the first half term I wanted to write and first thank you for all the support you have shown to the school during this time. It has been extremely humbling to receive such positive messages of thanks and support for our staff team at such an unprecedented time. I would also like to thank you for your willingness to follow the rules which we are constantly reviewing and updating as the guidance changes. Working together as one we can keep everyone as safe as we possibly can and school open for our children.

My priority through the whole of the pandemic has been to provide a calm, safe and secure environment for the staff and children of Bunbury and wider community. With your help and support we have been able to achieve this for the past 8 months. Thank you.

As you will know from the Prime Ministers speech on Monday 12th October a new tiered system with regards to Covid-19 has been put in place. We fall into the second tier in Cheshire East and as such there are new rules in place for us all in our communities. Within school we are continuing with our Covid actions in order to mitigate the risk of transmission and infection as much as we can. These will remain in place for the foreseeable future. Schools are to remain open at present and you should continue to follow the guidelines below in addition to the new guidelines which were issued within the community.

Covid Symptoms

If you or someone in your immediate family develops one or more of the following symptoms then you should inform school, self-isolate and get a test. Once you have the result of the test you should inform school again.

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough (This means coughing a lot for more than an hour or three or more episodes of coughing in a day)
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste.

Parents and visitors on school sites

Earlier this term we asked that all adults are to wear a face covering when visiting or entering the school premises including outdoor yard areas. Our staggered drop off and pick up times will remain in force and we ask that parents/carers continue to arrive and leave promptly when dropping off/collecting their child. Please do not congregate and always maintain social distancing as we know that the virus is easily transmitted from person to person. We will be continuing with only 1 adult to drop off and collect the children. Around the external site you will see that we have added appropriate markings to aid with social distancing.

Around school

Our Covid arrangements still very much remain in school. Children are discretely taught in their class bubbles and all breaks, lunchtimes and PE sessions are kept to that bubble. There is no crossing or mixing of children within school and this will remain as we move into the new half term.

We continue to ask that children do not bring bags into school unless it contains a packed lunch. Whilst, I appreciate this is not ideal with their many belongings, it is necessary when all possessions are kept now



within the classrooms. Extra bags create a trip hazard and reduce the space children have to move around in safely, within their bubbles. We will also be continuing with children coming to school in their PE kits on PE days for the foreseeable future. Our school PE hoodies are now available to purchase from our uniform supplier Badged and can be teamed with a pair of black jogging pants from any clothing supplier. As children will be continuing to take their PE lessons outside these extra layers will help to keep them warm.

This week after recent guidance all school staff are wearing masks/visors when working and moving around communal areas of school. They will not however be wearing them within their classroom bubbles as they are not practical for teaching our youngest learners.

NEW GUIDANCE within the community.

Meeting family and friends.

In Tier 2 we must now not meet socially with friends and family indoors in any setting unless you live with them or have formed a support bubble with them. This includes private homes, and any other indoor venues such as pubs and restaurants. A support bubble is where a household with one adult joins with another household. Households in that support bubble can still visit each other, stay overnight, and visit public places together. Informal childcare can also be provided via childcare bubbles. Find out more about childcare bubbles in the 'Childcare' section below. You may continue to see friends and family you do not live with (or have not formed a support bubble with) outside, including in a garden or other outdoor space. When you do so, you must not meet in a group of more than 6. This limit of 6 includes children of any age.

CHILDCARE ARRANGEMENTS

Linked Childcare households

Last week I wrote to you about the Linked Childcare Households. Thank you to all of you who have emailed the school office to inform us of your arrangements. A childcare bubble is where someone in one household provides informal (unpaid and unregistered) childcare to a child aged 13 or under in another household. For any given childcare bubble, this must always be between the same 2 households. Friends or family who do not live with you and are not part of a support or Linked childcare household bubble must not visit your home to help with childcare. Childcare bubbles are to be used to provide childcare only, and not for the purposes of different households mixing where they are otherwise not allowed to do so.

I thank you all once more for your support and co-operation with all our arrangements, it is very much appreciated and has meant that myself and the staff team can focus on the most important thing, your children.

The full guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-level-high>

As always, if you have any questions or queries, then please do get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.



N M Badger
Principal