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18th September 2020 Newsletter



Local Lockdown

Dear Parents/Carers

I am sure that you will have been made aware of new local restrictions are being introduced across the North East from today to help address the significant rise in Coronavirus in our region over the recent weeks.

Please see <http://www.durham.gov.uk/localrestrictions> for the most up to date information. We have included the most relevant points, for us as a school, below.

From Friday 18 September, regulations will lawfully ban the following:

- Residents must not socialise with other people outside of their own households or support bubble in private homes and gardens.
- Residents should not socialise with other people outside of their own households in all public venues.
- Residents are advised to only use public transport for essential purposes, such as travelling to school or work.
- Residents are advised against attending amateur and semi-professional sporting events as spectators.
- You can continue to use early years and childcare settings, including childminders and providers offering before or after school clubs or other out-of-school settings for children. You can also continue to employ nannies, including those living outside of the region.
- Children of parents who are separated can continue to move between households.

Please remember that a support bubble is a close support network between a household with only one adult in the home (known as a single-adult household) and one other household of any size.

Once you're in a support bubble, you can think of yourself as being in a single household with people from the other household. It means you can have close contact with that household as if they were members of your own household.

Once you make a support bubble, you should not change who is in your bubble.

You should not have multiple bubbles.

Conduct on school premises

It saddens me to say, we are aware that some adults who have been dropping off and collecting, from school, have behaved inappropriately. I would just like to generally remind everyone that any aggression displayed verbally or physically on school premises will be dealt with accordingly.

We would also ask parents if they have a query, concern or a complaint that needs to be discussed that they should arrange a telephone appointment to speak to the class teacher.

Packed Lunches

Since the return to school, we have asked that children opting to bring a packed lunch to school do so in a disposable bag (paper/plastic).

From Monday 21st September, children will be permitted to bring a hard-covered lunch box to school ie a plastic box.

We are unable to accept cloth type packed lunch boxes and would ask that children do not bring these to school.

Any hard-covered, plastic lunch box that is brought to school each day we would expect to be washed daily when it has returned home from school.

Thank you for your patience and co-operation with this matter.

School Dinners

If you make the decision to change your child's choice of meals from a school meal to a packed lunch, you must inform the school office.

Otherwise you could be charged for school meals that your child has not taken. We would also ask that you give a week's notice. Thank you.

Photographer

The School Photographer will visit school to take individual photos on **Monday 28th September 2020**. There will be more information to follow next week.

Children/Families in Isolation

When should I get my child a COVID-19 test?

A child who has the following symptoms should get a test:

- A new continuous cough
- A loss of smell or taste
- A temperature of 38° or more

If a child needs to take a test we must have a copy of the test results sent to enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk or the school mobile for our records.

When should I keep my child off school?

You only need to keep them off school if they have:

- A temperature of 38° or more
- A new cough or worsening of an underlying chest condition such as asthma
- Difficulty breathing
- Change or loss of taste or smell

Those families that have been advised to isolate will have access to activities similar to those provided in lockdown. If you have trouble accessing the activities please inform the school office and we can provide a work pack for you.

There are also additional, in depth, lessons if families choose to access these. These will take a lot more time just like a lesson would in school. You can find them:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/> (maths lessons)

<https://www.thenational.academy/> (general lessons)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary> (general lessons)