

Update: 10.11.21

Good afternoon,

I really had thought I'd written my last Covid update...but here we go again. As you know, County Durham schools have been advised to consider restrictions to prevent any further spread amongst school children. Things have worked really well this week (thank you for your support once again!). I met with staff last Monday night & listened to some of the feedback staff have received. In light of this we are going to make the following adaptations:

- **Staggered starts:** inconvenient for some families (and teachers starting lessons) so from tomorrow entry into school will be **8.40 – 9.10am**. This gives half an hour to get the children in – hopefully in a socially distanced manner. Try & keep to suggested times if you can but staff are in school early & classrooms are set up from 8.40am so if your designated time is inconvenient you can bring your child in anytime from 8.40am.
- **Teaching Time:** remains unchanged – whatever start & finish times we have we add or decrease playtimes & lunchtimes so children always have the same hours of lesson times.
- **Christmas:** all activities as far as the children are concerned will all go ahead as we are able to make any necessary adaptations. Performances with an audience however, are more problematic – we aim to try & do a little Christmas singalong outside with each year group (weather permitting) – details to follow. If all else fails we will certainly get something sent to you via Dojo!

As always with this, opinions vary from 'not doing enough' to 'going too far'. At the end of the day we are just doing everything possible to keep our children, staff & community safe with the minimum disruption to the children's education. I can not thank staff, parents & governors enough for your support, understanding and co-operation.

L. Gowland