



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L
G A Y T O N R O A D • H E S W A L L • W I R R A L • C H 6 0 8 P Z

Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to welcoming all our children back to school tomorrow. Although we are hoping that 2021 is going to be a calmer and more settled year, it is evident that everyone needs to continue to play their part in keeping our school community safe and that the year has not started as smoothly as we would have hoped. At this current time of writing, we are able to open fully to all our children, as we currently have sufficient staffing.

As we prepare for the children returning to school tomorrow, I just wanted to outline some important messages to parents which will support the safety of our whole school community.

Tier 3 restrictions:

Please can I remind all parents that Wirral has now entered tier 3 which in essence means – **very high alert**.

For individuals, this means:

- *You must not socialise with anyone you do not live with or who is not in your support bubble in any indoor setting.*
- *You must not socialise with anyone you do not live with or who is not in your support bubble in a private garden or at most outdoor public venues.*

However, you can see friends and family you do not live with (or do not have a support bubble with) in some outdoor public places, in a group of up to 6. This limit of 6 includes children of any age.

Please can I ask that all parents ensure that you stick to the guidelines so that we can try and reduce the community transmission now the children are returning to school. There is no doubt that Wirral's cases of covid-19 are increasing again and with news of the new variant/strain being more easily transferred it is vital that everyone plays their part in keeping children and staff safe.

School specific risk assessment elements:

With specific reference to school, please can I remind parents of the following:

- 1) *Please continue to wear face covering when dropping off and picking up your child from school.*
- 2) *Please can I request that only one parent/adult collects their child/ren from school so we can reduce the number of people congregating at the school gates.*
- 3) *Please can I ask that parents do not congregate talking to other parents at the end of the day and that parents quickly leave once they have collected their children.*
- 4) *Any meetings with staff will continue to take place outside or via telephone.*

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We will continue to operate our staggered endings to the school day. A reminder of the timings

- F2, Y1 & Y2 are released at 3:15pm with all KS2 siblings.
- KS2 are released at 3:25pm.

Please can I ask all parents to be prompt when collecting their child from school. S4YC will continue to provide before and after school care for any families who need to utilise this service. Please ensure that you have booked your child a place on their system.

Windows and doors will continue to be open in classrooms to ensure adequate ventilation. Please ensure that your child has a coat with hat/gloves in school every day and if necessary, they can wear additional layers under their school uniform.

Covid-19 Reminders:

Finally, please can I ask that all parents ensure that you do not send your child to school if they are displaying any symptoms of covid-19. If they are displaying symptoms, then it is vital that your child attends a symptomatic testing site in order to have a test. Please continue to communicate this through the school office. Your child cannot return to school until they have received a negative test result if they have been displaying symptoms.

Please remember that anyone who has been identified as a close contact of a confirmed case must stick to their full 10 days isolation period and should not seek an asymptomatic test or a symptomatic test. A negative test result does not mean that your child can return to school when they have been identified as a close contact with a confirmed case.

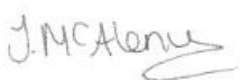
Critical worker survey:

Due to staff shortages, some schools (locally) have had to revert to providing places at school only for the pupils of critical workers and vulnerable children. I am desperately hoping that we will be able to continue staying open to all children. However, we are conscious that we need to ensure that we hold up to date information in case the decision is made that schools do not continue to open to all pupils. Therefore, we will be sending out a survey to all parents to find out whether you think you qualify for a critical worker place at the school. Please note that previous attendance from June 2020 will not guarantee that your child will qualify for a place this time.

Although the term begins under challenging circumstances, we must continue to all work together to support each other and to ensure that school remains as safe as possible. We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our children back to school tomorrow.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during these continued challenging and difficult times.

Kind regards,



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