



4th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We warmly welcome you back to school and I thought I would take a quick moment to update you on the school's changing approach to keeping your children and our community safe.

Firstly, I understand there is considerable confusion about the return of primary schools. As it stands, our school remains open to all and I will write to you immediately if this changes.

I also understand that, given the national picture, you may be worried about returning. While our risk assessment more than fulfils the government guidelines to keeping staff and children safe, we have felt it necessary to consider it again in the wake of a new variant we understand less about. So, the major change that children may notice will be that staff will wear visors and they will wear masks in communal areas. Beyond that, we are happy that our bubble system, timetabled handwashing and staggered breaks mean that children continue to be kept apart as well as a school can. We have retained our forward-facing desks and discouraged classroom movement, also.

We considered earlier opening for pick-up to manage those who have to wait between schools but we were not able to make it work. Those transition times are a time of worry for all of us so please wear masks if you cannot socially distance but also understand that some cannot wear masks and have good reason not to. The drop-off period is from 8.40 to 8.55 and the pick-up period is from 3.20 to 3.35. The later the better as these are times that we have less footfall.

Please contact me on dpolak@piltonbluecoat.devon.sch.uk if you have any concerns and please take care of yourselves. We look forward to making the world a little more normal for your children.

Dan Polak
Head of School



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