



Carrington Junior School

Interim Head Teacher: Mrs E Cameron

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Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year and welcome back to the Spring Term at Carrington Junior School. We hope you all managed a small rest over the holidays. January sees us starting the term with lots of interesting activities coming up for the children. Later this week, you will receive the curriculum newsletter for your child's year group detailing some of these activities.

Covid-19 update

As I write this letter, the Government have just published updated guidance relating to Covid-19 and the current circumstances relating to the Omicron variant. I'm sure you will be relieved to hear that not too much needs to change currently at Carrington Junior School but, as always, there could be changes to the situation.

We will continue the following measures:

- Start times split between Y3/4 (8.30am-8.35am) and Y5/6 and Blossom (8.35am-8.40am);
- Children staying in their year groups for learning and not mixing beyond their normal groupings;
- Enhanced cleaning during the school day will continue;
- Frequent hand washing throughout the school day;
- Visiting adults to continue wearing face coverings on the school site;
- Visitors and staff within the school building wearing face coverings in shared spaces and completing lateral flow testing at least twice weekly;
- Continued good ventilation in classrooms as well as the installation of carbon dioxide monitors;
- Informing families if there has been a positive case in their child's class, or who they may have come into contact with.

We have had a few questions about masks and ventilation which I will attempt to answer below.

Can my child wear a mask to school?

Children are welcome to wear a face covering if they wish to but this is not a requirement. We ask that any children who do choose to wear a face covering to school are able to put them on themselves and know about good mask hygiene, for example not touching the front of the mask.

How can I make sure my child is warm enough with open windows?

The guidance for good ventilation asks schools to have windows open and to open doors between lessons, to allow an inflow of fresh air regularly throughout the day. At this time of year, despite having the heating on, having open windows can mean the classrooms are colder than normal.

Therefore, we are slightly relaxing our school uniform policy again on a short-term basis, to allow the following:

- Long-sleeved base layers below school shirts and/or trousers;
- Children may bring in a plain fleece or sweatshirt to wear in addition to their school jumper;
- Children wearing a uniform skirt may wear plain grey or black leggings under their skirt (with uniform coloured socks);
- plain fingerless gloves.

We still expect children to wear full school uniform and this includes sensible black school shoes. Only children with a medical note should be wearing different footwear.

Communication with school

We are always happy to respond to any questions or queries you have. Please do not hesitate to contact us. We will always endeavour to get back to you as promptly as possible. We do ask for your understanding in the upcoming term, as it is likely that there will be several staff absences over time, and many of our staff may be covering more than one role.

As a general guide you should contact the following people, according to the nature of your enquiry:

Absences - school office by phone or email

Covid notifications - school office by phone or email

General queries - school office by phone or email

Changes to pick up or home circumstances - school office by phone or email (You may have a call back from your child's class teacher, our family liaison worker, or a member of the leadership team).

Information about learning or classroom matters - class teacher by SeeSaw (most of the time class teachers are with children all day teaching and may not see messages until the end of the school day, so please contact the school office for more urgent matters).

New faces

We welcome Miss Wootton to Year 3, Mrs Cox to Blossom and Mr Gull to the school kitchen. We are sure you will join us in wishing them a great start to their time at Carrington Junior School. If they are teaching your child, they will be in touch soon via SeeSaw.

We look forward to your children returning to school on Wednesday, 5th January, at the times indicated above, as we make a start into 2022.

Yours sincerely



Mrs E Cameron
Interim Head Teacher