

Crowmarsh Gifford C. E. Primary School

Old Reading Road, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8EN



Faith ♦ Service ♦ Integrity ♦ Responsibility ♦ Truth ♦ Excellence

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Dear Parents,

It truly looks like we may be seeing the end of this pandemic nearing.

We hope that you and your families begin to enjoy the new normal and the lifting of restrictions. I can imagine all the hugging that is going to take place next week! How we have been longing for that human connection to be reignited again!

Even though things are getting back to 'normal' in public, unfortunately, the guidance that schools have to follow has not really changed. However, from next week I have made a significant shift to our risk assessments to allow more freedom between some year groups. This has been based on our thorough risk assessments and the fact that since the lockdowns began last year, we have not had to close down any of our bubbles. The evidence in school, therefore, would suggest that what we have been doing so far has been effective. Based on this and to give everyone something to look forward to while helping ease the burden and load in school, I am allowing year groups to bubble together.

Therefore, from Monday, year 1 and 2 will be one bubble, as will year 3, 4 and 5, 6 (average of 60 children per bubble). For the meantime, our reception class will remain a separate bubble until we can begin bubbling with pre-school when Early Years guidance is less restrictive.

Please also understand, that this will mean that in the unfortunate situation we have a positive COVID case in school, we most likely would have to close the whole bubble (both year groups) as the guidance regarding 'contact tracing' has not changed. However, we feel the benefits of two year groups now being able to collaborate again, far outweighs the moderate risk of having to close down two year groups. I hope that you will agree with me.

All timings for drop-off and pick-up remain the same and everything else must stay in place to keep our school safely within the government guidance.

If you are interested in keeping up to date with the most current in-school risk assessments, they are on our school website.

As always, thank you for your support and encouragement. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Your Headteacher,

F. Cooper