Cambois Primary School

UPDATE NOVEMBER 2020

9th Nov 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I write to you this evening to again ask for your support. We have been back to school now for a few months and I am sure you will agree that school has returned a positive and happy place to be for all our pupils.

However, we have recently entered a national lockdown and schools will remain open as long as we all do our part. This is essential not only for our children’s mental wellbeing but for their academic achievements. We can see massive impact of the lockdown last time and we are working tirelessly to ensure children catch up. We have managed to have no cases for children or staff within school. This is not easy. My staff are working harder than they ever have before. Our cleaners are cleaning on cycles and with regimes that are meticulous. Our cook has adapted to new systems and our children are getting hot nutritious meals every day. Our interventions have resumed and are taking place and we have managed to sustain all classes despite some staff absences. I want to remain open and fully support the decision to keep them open.

However, it saddens me that despite most parents doing their part, some are not. This is jeopardising all of our safety. A small place like Cambois just needs one case and it could then swipe through the school rapidly and I am sure the last thing anyone wants in the run up to Christmas is children isolating or family members sick. We have some extremely clinically vulnerable members of staff and some of us even have children whom fall in the clinically extremely vulnerable group – I need to keep everyone safe. Staff are working and going home and doing little else to ensure we stay fit and well to be there for our children.

A few parents are still not following the rules. It is disappointing that tonight I could hear parents verbally mocking these rules as though we are being overly cautious about social distancing and not mixing at the school gate. Almost 50 000 people have died from this virus. We are following government guidance and the same measures all other schools in England are too.

We spend so much time at school cleaning toilets, having set walk ways, lunches in classrooms and even separate playtimes and this is all a waste of time if when school ends parents and carers mix their children across bubbles and decide to socialise, mix households and even walk home together mixing all these children in to different bubbles. This is also against the law at present. Unless you are in a support bubble with these people then you are not able to do this. A number of parents have raised concerns about observing this outside of school.

The reason we have bubbles in school is to minimise the impact if a positive case occurs and rather than have to close the whole school down we would only need to close to people and children who have been close contacts and set bubbles but if these rules are not followed then we could end up having to close the whole school if we get a positive case.

Nobody likes to isolate; nobody likes the fact we are not able to carry out our normal day to day activities but I am sure you will all remember the five months of no school and agree nobody wants to return to that.

We all have to do our part and we all have to take this seriously and respond in a safe manner to ensure we are all safe and school remains open and COVID free.

Please respect the rules and systems in place – we all have our part to play.

Stay Safe

Thanks

Mrs Allan