

THE VICTORY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Executive Principal: Mr. J.Hartley
Head of School: Mrs K Jones
Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs V Gidney

25th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you know, the school is currently open only to the children of critical workers and vulnerable. This is to help keep everyone safe whilst transmission rates in the community are very high. Within school, we have a detailed risk assessment in place to ensure that all the Government guidance on protecting the children, staff and families is followed and we ask everyone on school site to follow the basic rules of social distancing and wearing a mask. The vast majority of parents follow these rules, and we thank you for that. We are grateful that we don't have the problems that other schools face. The most recent version of the risk assessment can always be found on our website.

Paulsgrove currently has a very high rate of transmission of Covid cases, much higher than the rate in the surrounding areas and higher than the national average for England. The QA hospital is also struggling to treat all of the patients who need care and so we all have a responsibility to ensure that we stick to the rules and help to bring the transmission rate down as quickly as we can. We need your help with this.

In the last week, it has come to our attention that a small number of our families are not sticking to the strict no household mixing rules, and some are in fact having sleepovers and meeting up outside of school. We know this is a minority of parents, but we are writing to you all to ask you to please make sure that you are following the Government guidance which is in place to help us keep the children and staff safe in school. The children and staff are limited within school so that each adult and child is only exposed to the lowest possible number of other families and bubbles. If the families are not sticking to the rules and are then meeting up with others, they are increasing the size of the bubble that the children and staff are exposed to within school and are increasing the risk of the virus being brought into school.

Other Portsmouth schools have had problems with children attending school and being brought to school by parents who are awaiting the results from a Covid-19 test. I have no suspicion that this is happening here. However, just in case, please can I remind you that if you, or anyone in your household, has symptoms of Covid-19, the entire household must isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or from the date of the test (whichever comes first.) Only if the test comes back negative, can you come onto school site before the 10-day period is up.

To all our families who follow the rules, all of the time, thank you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Hartley', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Hartley
Executive Headteacher