**The Woodlands Federation**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new year! I hope you have had a wonderful break and managed to catch up with loved ones. I was lucky enough to spend a glorious week on the Isle of Arran exploring the sea and mountains which has left me feeling refreshed and ready to ‘get going’.

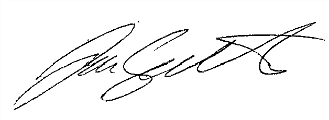
There have not been many changes since I last wrote to you regarding Covid 19 procedures but I will highlight the main changes below:

* We do not need to continue with the staggered entry and exit to school- all can arrive and leave at the regular time.
* Parents do not need to wear face coverings when picking up and dropping off children.
* Parents of Nursery children can drop off at the classroom door (St Peter’s please see Miss Beynon’s Class Dojo message as to the routine).
* We do ask that if you need to come inside the building that you wear a mask to enable us to protect staff (it is the case that double vaccinated adults can still pick up and spread the infection easily).
* We are no longer operating a bubble system, pupils will play together and have assemblies etc. together.
* Double vaccinated adults and primary aged children don't need to isolate if they have been a close contact to a positive case. Regular testing will be recommended following the DfE advice.
* Isolation is only necessary if you have symptoms- households don't need to isolate either.
* The numbers are changing but the general idea is that we will only need to report an outbreak if we have 5 positive cases confirmed within 10 days.
* We will follow PHE, Local Outbreak Team and DfE advice in the event of an outbreak, we are required to maintain our online/remote learning capability should it be required.
* We will follow ventilation plan to ensure a flow of air throughout the school. A colder weather plan is in place too to prevent classrooms becoming too chilly.
* Any situation that requires intimate care, staff will use full PPE
* Staff will continue to self-test twice per week with LFD tests.

The current procedures are due to be reviewed late September and I will let you know of any developments as they occur.

Thank you once again for your continued support and understanding and here’s to a fantastic new year.

My very best wishes.



Mr Jason Gathercole

Headteacher