



Changing Guidance

July 2021

Dear parents/carers,

What a scorcher of a day! I hope your feet are all dangling in a paddling pool and your freezers are full of ice lollies!

A parent has asked for clarity over end of year arrangements considering the changing guidance which commences on July 19th for many aspects of life. In school we have been told by the LA to continue with our RA until the end of this academic year. This means the continuation of staggered drop off/pick up, classes not mixing, staggered lunch etc. until the end of term. Thank you for continuing to support with this.

We know many schools locally are being very disrupted by covid -19 presently - multiple classes and even schools are having to close due to children being 'contacts'* of a positive case. This is not anyone's fault – it is just a reflection of the covid-19 rate in the area and more mixing. Our aim is for as many children and staff to end term together at Eastington so we can enjoy a bit of fun in the last 2 days. This is particularly important for our Y6 children who will move to secondary next year. We are/will continue to do our best to reduce the risk of closing classrooms by following the RA.

We have been told new guidance commences on August 16th which means children under 18 will not need to self-isolate if they have been in contact with a confirmed case after this date. Clearly this will reduce the number of children self-isolating next academic year significantly which will be brilliant. <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Enjoy what is left of your weekend – I am off to raid the ice pops in the freezer...again!

Zoe Avastu

Headteacher

***What is meant by a contact (from PHE June 24th 2021 update)**

A contact is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. You can be a contact any time from 2 days before the person who tested positive developed their symptoms (or, if they did not have any symptoms, from 2 days before the date their positive test was taken), and up to 10 days after, as

this is when they can pass the infection on to others. A risk assessment may be undertaken to determine this, but a contact can be:

- anyone who lives in the same household as another person who has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19
- anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19:
 - face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
 - been within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
 - been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)

A person may also be a close contact if they have travelled in the same vehicle or plane as a case.