



Tilston Parochial  
CE Primary School

Bringing out the Best in Everyone.  
*'Encourage one another and build each other up.'* Thessalonians 5:11

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Yesterday, the Prime Minister announced a new three-tier system of local lockdown measures for England to try to curb rising COVID-19 rates.

The **Local COVID Alert Levels** - "medium", "high" and "very high" - will be implemented depending on local infection rates from Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The government has released a full list of areas and which tier they fall under.

### **What are the rules for the different tiers - and which area are we in?**

#### **Tier 1 - Medium**

- 10pm curfew for bars, pubs and restaurants
- Gatherings of more than six people banned, apart from some settings such as funerals and weddings

Areas in Tier 1:

Everywhere in England apart from the places listed further down are in Tier 1.

#### **Tier 2 - High:**

- **Mixing of households indoors not allowed**
- **Two households can meet in a private garden - rule of six and social distancing rules apply**

Areas in Tier 2:

Cheshire

- **Cheshire West and Chester**
- Cheshire East

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As cases are significantly rising across the country the government have enforced local lockdowns as they believe they will be more effective than a national lockdown. Cheshire West is in Tier Two- A HIGH RISK area. By law, as the Headteacher of Tilston Parochial Primary School, I must take all reasonable measures and ensure we are adhering to local lockdown rules.

### **What do the local lockdown rules mean to our school?**

#### **Q: Can my child go to a friend's house to play?**

A: No. Mixing of households indoors is not allowed. Two households can meet in a private garden - rule of six and social distancing rules apply

To ensure we are fulfilling our legal responsibility, we cannot dismiss children to go home with another household.

#### **Q: Can someone collect my child from school?**

A: Yes. If you are walking. If your child is in a different bubble, please keep a 2 meter distance to reduce the risk of infection.

#### **In a car:**

A: No. Unless exceptional circumstances.

You should try not to share a vehicle with those outside your household or support bubble. If you need to do this, try to:

- share the transport with the same people each time
- [keep to small groups of up to 6 people](#) at any one time
- open windows for ventilation
- travel side by side or behind other people, rather than facing them, where seating arrangements allow
- face away from each other
- consider seating arrangements to maximise distance between people in the vehicle
- clean your car between journeys using standard cleaning products - make sure you clean door handles and other areas that people may touch
- ask the driver and passengers to [wear a face covering](#)

Government Coronavirus safer Travel Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers>

### **Families who do not live together**

#### **Q: Can my child sleep over at their Mum/Dad's house?**

A: Yes

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**Q: Can my child attend after school clubs?**

A: Our sports clubs are classed as educational and can therefore continue. Bubbles are kept separate and sports coaches follow all government and Department of Education guidance.

In school we have implemented the following safety measures to reduce the risk of infection:

- **Face masks MUST be worn when entering the school grounds.**
- **Only one person to drop off and collect to reduce the risk of infection.**
- **Staggered drop off times**  
Please keep to the strict times to avoid mixing bubbles. Please drop off and leave the premises immediately to reduce contact with people from different households.

Drop Off Times		
8:40-8:50am	EYFS	EYFS door
8:40-8:50am	Kestrels	KS2 Gate
8:50-9:00am	Robins	EYFS Gate
8:50-9:00am	House Martins	KS2 Gate

- **Staggered Lunchtimes**  
All children eat their lunch in the dining room in their class bubbles. The dining room tables and benches are cleaned thoroughly between each sitting. Lunchtime supervisors and kitchen staff always wear face masks and face shields and social distance.
- **Bubbles**  
There is no mixing of bubbles during the school day. Children work in their class bubble. Children play in bubbles and in designated play areas.
- **Staggered Collection Times**  
Please keep to the strict times to avoid mixing bubbles. Please collect your child and leave the yard promptly.

Drop Off Times		
3:00-3:10pm	EYFS	EYFS door
3:00-3:10pm	Kestrels	KS2 Gate
3:15-3:25pm	Robins	EYFS Gate
3:15-3:25pm	House Martins	KS2 Gate

If you have children in different bubbles, for example a child in EYFS and a child in Robins, please arrive at 8:50am to avoid waiting on the yard or arrive at 3:10pm to collect. Thank you for your patience.

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It is vital we do not mix bubbles.

### **Why are we so strict with bubbles?**

We have organised our school into four bubbles:

- 1) Wrens & Bluebell Nursery
- 2) Robins
- 3) House Martins
- 4) Kestrels

At no point during the school day do bubbles mix. Public Health England have worked with school leaders to advise on the safest organisation and bubbles are the key factor to limiting the risk of infection. If we are informed of a positive case, we would immediately close the bubble of the staff member or child who has tested positive. The bubble closes immediately as all children and staff would be identified as contacts and therefore have to self-isolate for 14 days. If households socialise out of school this could result in the mixing of bubbles and potentially close several bubbles in school.

- **PE**  
The guidance states that PE is safer outdoors and we will always endeavour to run PE outdoors. In bad weather PE sessions will take place in the hall with all windows and doors open. Please provide warm clothing and waterproof coats.
- **Singing**  
The DFE guidance still restricts us from singing in school. We can sing with up to 15 children; however, this increases the risk of infection.

For families living in Wrexham, please read the lockdown rules by clicking on the link below:

<https://gov.wales/wrexham-county-borough-lockdown-frequently-asked-questions>

We really appreciate your support and patience during these unprecedented times. We have been very fortunate so far not to have any cases in school. Please continue to work with us to keep our school family safe.

Yours sincerely



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