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Headteacher – Mrs K Mason

Tuesday 6th July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be aware, the Education Secretary has today announced an updated 'Schools COVID-19 Operational Guidance', which looks to remove many of the restrictions currently placed on schools as the country moves to Step 4 of the roadmap, which is effective from Monday 19th July 2021.

Over the past 17 months, Richardson Endowed Primary School has set out clear risk assessments to ensure the safety of pupils, staff, parents/carers and the wider community of Smalley. I would like to take this opportunity, once again, to thank you all personally, for playing your part in ensuring that these control measures have been followed.

In light of the new guidance, we will now look to update our risk assessment and outbreak management plan accordingly, in preparation for the Autumn Term 2021.

One key section of the guidance is the removal of the 'bubble system'. It states:

At Step 4 we will no longer recommend that it is necessary to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles')...If your school is still open at Step 4, you may wish to continue with these measures until the end of your summer term.

I am keen to ensure that the safety of our pupils, staff, parents/carers and the wider community of Smalley is protected and therefore will be keeping the 'bubble system' in operation until the end of the summer term. This not only helps our school with the overall organisation required in the removal of the 'bubble system', but also ensures that with the rising case numbers we are seeing throughout the country, our whole school community can feel safe to enjoy their well-deserved summer holiday.

Once our updated risk assessment and outbreak management plan has been written, this will of course be shared with you.

Thank you, once again, for your ongoing support for school.

Stay safe and look after yourselves and the community.

Kind regards,

Mrs K Mason
Headteacher