

# Fox Wood School

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20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I write to you at the end of what has been, once again, a true rollercoaster of an academic year. The much longed for 'normality' continues to elude us, and we can only wait and see what Britain's new found 'freedom' truly means for us all, and the impact it will have.

However, I also write to you at the end of an academic year that has been filled with so much to be proud of, and grateful for, and so I want to take this opportunity to thank you: Thank You for working with us, for trusting us as we tried to make sense of every rapid change and new guidance document, for sticking to the rules we have set for the safety of all but especially our most vulnerable pupils, staff and families, and for supporting your wonderful children to access (in whatever format has been necessary) school throughout the year, and engage with us to inspire us to carry on, no matter what.

I also want to take this opportunity to formally thank my amazing staff team for always going above and beyond, in so many more ways than I could possibly list, for truly stepping up, for being so skilled, creative and passionate about what they do, and for ensuring that your children are at the heart of everything. I simply couldn't manage without them, and I wouldn't want to.

In terms of September we have made the decision to plan for Autumn 1 in Bubbles. This means that staff can confidently plan and prepare thoroughly for what lessons and school life will look like, rather than having a 'Version A' and 'Version B' model sketched out. Bubbles for September will be as follows:

Bubble A – Classes 1, 2 & 3

Bubble B – Classes 4, 5 & 6

Bubble C – Classes 7, 11 & 13

Bubble D – Classes 8, 9, 10 & 12

We will obviously be acting upon any Government and Public Health advice around Covid19, and will ensure that any changes/expectations that will impact on you are confirmed on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September so that you know exactly what to expect when you arrive at school the next day.

Headteacher: Miss Lucinda Duffy NPQH, BA.Ed QTS

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Lianne Buchanan NPQH, BA (Hons), QTS, MA SEN



Towards the end of September we will plan for what happens after the October half term, and it is very much our hope that we can return to as much normality as possible by that point.

Transport arrangements and collection of pupils at the beginning and end of the day will remain as they are at present for Autumn 1 – this system has been working well for many reasons, and again ensures that we can plan these processes with confidence now.

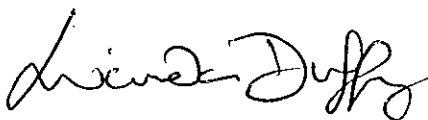
At this stage I am unable to provide any information regarding transport for those children who access this – however it will be being planned by our Transport Colleagues, with whom I have shared our plans for Autumn 1. I will also continue to have 'catch up' meetings with transport colleagues over the holiday period in the hope that I can support the smoothest system transition possible for you and your children.

All staff will be asked to recommence Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) twice weekly from Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August, until further notice, and I would ask that those pupils who have also been doing this at home continue from this point onwards too. Should you need any LFT tests to assist you with this then please let us know via the Home/School book and we will send these home.

I know that this there is still much anxiety and uncertainty nationally, and particularly within our community, and so I appreciate that this will be another unusual holiday period. I also appreciate that for many of us (me included!) a break from routine is not always as easy and relaxing as we might hope – however I send our wishes to you all; that you are able to find moments of real joy and hopefulness during this time – and, of course, that there are brighter and better days ahead!

We look forward to welcoming all pupils back on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September!

Yours Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lucinda Duffy', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lucinda Duffy

Headteacher