



The Best That We Can Be
Devonshire Primary Academy

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Wednesday 4th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

As you are aware, a National Lockdown will commence tomorrow, Thursday 5th November, in a national attempt to reduce the spread of Covid-19. You will also be aware that all schools are to remain open throughout this second lockdown period. The Government continues to prioritise the wellbeing and long-term futures of children; it remains very important for children and young people to attend school in order to support their wellbeing and education.

Recently, I sent families a list of further restrictions to be followed as we entered Tier 3. I feel it is important to remind parents of these restrictions and to also inform you of a few further changes.

- We continue to ask all visitors to school to wear a mask or visor. It is also an expectation that parents must wear a mask or visor at the beginning and end of the school day – especially when on school grounds, without exception, unless there is a medical reason for exemption. The school grounds referred to are by the trim trail and the Y5/6 playground.
- We continue to ask parents to socially distance as much as possible at the beginning and end of the school day. We appreciate that there is a shortage of space around the school on Cauce Street and Devonshire Road, but the staggered start and finish times, if followed correctly, should reduce congestion.
- To reduce crowding, please do not arrive at school early/ prior to your child's start and end times. Although we appreciate that some parents have a number of children to collect at different times and at different gates, congestion could be eased further if families ensure only one adult per family comes to the school gates, where possible.
- To adhere to Tier 3 guidance, please ensure that only adults from your family support bubble are dropping off/collecting your children, where possible.
- We continue to ask that if you are waiting with younger children for older siblings, or vice versa, they are kept with yourselves and not given the opportunity to pass the marked areas.
- Extra-curricular clubs, other than Breakfast and Dragonflies After School Club, continue to be cancelled until further notice.

It is vital that now, more than ever, these rules are adhered to.

The new guidance, to be enforced from Thursday 5th November, is very clear. If you wish to read the guidance in full detail, you can do so at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

We have made some small changes to drop off and collection times, which will come into effect from tomorrow, Thursday 5th November. This decision has been taken to help avoid unnecessary waiting, particularly at a time of year when the weather is likely to become more unpredictable. **The new drop off and collection times can be viewed below.**



<u>Bubbles</u>	<u>Gate/Entrance</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Finish Time</u>
Reception RG & RM	Devonshire Road Gate	8.45 – 8.55am	2.50pm
Year 1 1S & 1T	Devonshire Road Gate	8.30 – 8.40am	3.00pm
Year 2 2B & 2W	Devonshire Road Gate	8.40 – 8.50am	3.10pm
Year 3 3D & 3F	Counce Street Gate (Closest to Trim Trail)	8.30 - 8.40am	3.00pm
Year 4 4C & 4W	Counce Street Gate (Closest to Trim Trail)	8.40 – 8.50am	3.10pm
Year 5 5D & 5M/T	Counce Street Gate (Y5/6 Playground)	8.30 - 8.40am	3.00pm
Year 6 6B & 6O	Counce Street Gate (Y5/6 Playground)	8.40 - 8.50am	3.10pm

Our aim is to keep all families, pupils and staff as safe as possible in these unprecedented times and I urge you to support us with these measures. Together, we can continue to provide the very best education for our children, in the safest way possible.

Yours sincerely,

D.P. Simm

Mr D.P. Simm
Headteacher