



Archbishop Courtenay Church of England Primary School

Eccleston Road
Tovil
Maidstone
Kent
ME15 6QN

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office@abc.aquilatrust.co.uk
www.archbishopcourtenay.org.uk
Headteacher: Mrs S Heather
Chair of Governors: R O'Connell

Wednesday 29th December

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and managed to celebrate with your families.

By now I know we had all hoped and prayed that the pandemic was a very distant memory, but this does not appear to be the case, and whilst the Omicron variant has been described as a milder version of last year's COVID-19, it does appear to be highly transmissible bringing new problems for us all to face.

As I write this letter the government have not announced new measures in England, therefore I am delighted that school will open as planned on Tuesday 4th January. However, it would be remiss of me not to emphasise the challenges for schools in the coming months.

Whilst there does not appear to be another lockdown on the horizon, with government ministers suggesting schools must remain open, the difficulty will be staffing. Our online remote learning last year was incredibly successful, but Archbishop Courtenay Primary School believes very strongly in offering all our children face to face learning; so, you can be certain we will endeavour to remain open in order to continue providing excellent learning opportunities for all our children. However, due to the pandemic, should we suffer from a surge of staff absence we may need to introduce our Covid-19 contingency plan, which may involve the reintroduction of remote online learning <https://archbishop-courtenay-primary.secure-primariesite.net/policies/>

Therefore, in order to prevent any further disruption to the children's education, and after much deliberation we have decided to put into place further safety measures to keep all our stakeholders as safe as possible.

From Tuesday 4th January we will introduce the following measures at the start and end of the day:

Staggered Starts:

Year 5/6	8:30am	Line up on steps and enter via the balcony
Year 3/4	8:35am	Zig Zag path to enter school via the balcony
Year 1/2	8:35am	Zig Zag path to enter school via the hall
EYFS	8:35am	Zig Zag path for children to enter school via The da Vinci Room (next to the hall) Class Teachers will meet them at the door.

All parents are asked not to congregate once their children have entered school and to leave the site via the gate that leads into Eccleston Road

If the need arises, parents/carers are asked to communicate with senior leaders on duty before or after school or email their class teachers as appropriate. Face covering are still required on site.





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End of Day:

Year 5/6	3:15pm	Hall
Year 3/4	3:15pm	Warhol - Main playground Hepworth - Black pitch Kandinsky - Red pitch
Year 1/2	3:00pm	Picasso - Main playground Riley - Black pitch Lowry - Red pitch
EYFS	3:00pm	Hall

All parents/carers are encouraged to social distance and leave the site via the gate that leads into Eccleston Road. Please DO NOT congregate in front of reception.

Once the daily routine is observed we reserve the right to review procedures

We have tried to make these changes to the school day as painless as possible and hope you will support us as you have in the past as we navigate through the next few months.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your kindness over the last year and wish you all a very happy New Year!

Best wishes

Sue Heather

Headteacher

