



Hanley St Luke's C of E Aided Primary School

Learning, Laughing, Loving at Family St Luke's

Headteacher: Mrs L Williamson
BA (Hons) Cert Ed. NPQH

Email: office@hanleystlukes.com
www.hanleystlukes.com

Wellington Road, Hanley,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3QH
Tel: (01782) 234390/1

23rd April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re Class to Year Group Bubbles

As we come to the end of the first week back after the Easter break we have been reviewing our risk assessment against the wellbeing and learning needs of our children.

You will be aware that when infection rates were much higher than they are now, we decided to operate as class bubbles rather than year group bubbles for all bar Reception and Year 6. This was to minimise the risk of the spread of infection but also to minimise the risk of having to isolate high numbers of children across two classes. This was the correct decision at that point in the pandemic but it did mean we had to radically alter playtimes, lunchtimes and the way some lessons were delivered. Whilst the children have coped brilliantly with all of these changes, we cannot pretend that having sandwiches in class or not being able to play with a friend in the parallel class or having the full run of the playground is ideal- far from it, but it was absolutely necessary to keep everyone safe.

We are now in a different stage of the pandemic with the gradual easing of national restrictions and coupled with the start of the prospect of warmer weather, we feel that to continue class bubbles and all the related restrictions, would be detrimental to the children's over all wellbeing and learning opportunities. So, from next week, we are reverting to year group bubbles in Y1 & Y2 which means these children will be able to access the full menu for school meals and eat in the dining room and will be able to play with children from their own year group. The following week, providing all is well with the changes for Y1 and Y2, we will then allow all of Key Stage 2 to do the same and operate as year group bubbles.

Finally, please note that we are still operating fully within the current government guidance for schools and all other measures in our risk assessment are still in place. Obviously, if we do have any positive cases in school, we will carry out Test and Trace procedures to identify close contacts within the relevant year group but let's hope and pray that we are spared that this term. However, it is vital that everybody still keeps to the rules including social distancing and wearing of masks on drop off and collection and accessing tests at the first sign of any symptoms.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation as we move a little closer towards some kind of normality.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Williamson
Headteacher