
15th June 2021

Dear Parent or Carer

I am writing to clarify the situation following the Government's delay in the final easing of Covid restrictions and the implication this will have on our schools for the coming month. The existing guidance provided to schools by the DfE is still relevant and will be so until the 19 July.

This guidance indicates that schools should still be maintaining their learning bubbles and should not be running larger whole school events which bring large numbers of children and parents together. We have advised schools for the last month that, although they could begin to plan for larger whole school events including sports days and summer fairs, these would need to be postponed or cancelled if the Government changed its timeline for easing the final stages of lockdown. This has now happened and we are therefore asking schools not to run such whole school events until at least 19 July.

In addition to the impact on whole school events, we have advised that schools planning transition days from primary to secondary schools for 7 July, should postpone these transition events. We are asking that schools plan their transition days to run on Wednesday 21 July during the last week of term and following the final easing of lockdown on 19 July.

Whilst I am sure that there will be disappointment in the delay, it is essential that the excellent work of our schools over this last year in managing safety and therefore securing high levels of attendance, is not put at risk. The rate of transmission is rising and it is crucial that we do all we can to minimise the risk. Preparing for an effective transition as children move schools is very important and I know that schools will be working together to ensure that the process is managed carefully.

Yours sincerely

Paul Wagstaff

Director of Education & Skills