BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Belong Believe Achieve

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Dear Parents / Carers,

I am emailing to let you know about some slight adjustments we are making to the current arrangements.

I know that the vast majority of parents understand that we are doing our very best to make everything work in school within the current parameters. It is always helpful to hear and read words of encouragement along with constructive and helpful suggestions from parents so I would like to thank those people that have taken the time to contact us. It really is not easy as there are so many considerations that have to be taken into account but we are continually assessing and reviewing our arrangements to make them work as best we can for everyone.

Following a staff meeting last night we would like to make the following slight amendments to the current arrangements and also give some reminders. **These will be in place from Friday 18th September**:

- **Blue Pod (Year 3&4) This pod will now exit via the gravel path to the right of the drive, at the side of the dining hall. This will be <u>at the end of the day only.</u> We would ask that all parents waiting for children in this pod wait on the grass on either side of the gravel path.** This then keeps the driveway clear for everyone entering & exiting the school as it appears that this is where the gridlock is happening. The start of the day is working well so there will be no change there and this pod will continue to enter via the doors in the hall.

- **Contacting Teachers.** Please could we ask that any conversations that are necessary with teachers at the start or end of the day happen either via email or over the phone. Not only does this eliminate face to face conversations which are not ideal at the current time, it also enables the teachers to get the children into and out of school quickly thus freeing up space on the drive.

- **Siblings who finish at the same time?** If you have children who finish at the same time please could we ask that you collect the youngest one/s first. The teachers will ensure they keep the older sibling until a parent arrives.

- **Can I wear a mask on the school site?** Yes. If parents feel they would like to wear a mask when they bring / pick up their children that is absolutely fine.

- **PE Kits.** Please can we remind everyone that children must wear PE kits on their PE days as they are not allowed to change in the school at the moment. This should be the usual PE t shirt, dark plain shorts or joggers and their school jumper.

- **When should parents leave in the morning?** As soon as your child has come into the school we would politely encourage parents to leave please. This ensures that the waiting area for each pod has as few people as possible. We would also remind everyone that only one person must accompany children into school please to ensure we have a minimal number of people on site.

- **Is my child allowed a bag / book bag in school?** As we have to minimise items coming into school / going home from school we will send home any reading books in a poly pocket. This means it can be wiped once at home. Any books sent home will have been quarantined for the necessary 72 hours before coming home to you. No bags should be brought into school.

- **Where can I park at drop off & pick up time?** The car park opposite the school as well as the village hall car park can both be used by parents. We hope this will ease traffic issues.

We are hopeful that with these slight adjustments the current congestion on the drive will be eased. Lots of the plans we have in place are working well so we don't want to completely change everything if it is not necessary. We will monitor how effective these changes are and, as always, keep everything under review.

Once again, thank you so much for your ongoing support at this difficult time. It is truly appreciated.

Best wishes,

Claire