

7<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parent and Carers,

## **Covid-19 restrictions update**

In new guidance published this week, the Department for Education confirmed that schools will no longer be mandated to 'keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles')' when the country enters Step Four of the government's roadmap out of lockdown on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July, if the four tests for easing the Coronavirus restrictions have been met. Schools are required to make appropriate decisions locally.

A review of the Coronavirus control measures has been undertaken at school in conjunction with local Public Health doctors advising on the current situation in our community. Whilst, this term, we are pleased that infections have been low at Gladesmore, we are informed that there has been a large increase in the Covid-19 infections amongst young people in Tottenham. This has resulted in many of our local schools having to ask large numbers of young people to self-isolate.

Following the review this week with the doctors, I can confirm that there will be no changes to our arrangements from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July, for the remaining few days of this term. **Pupils will continue to be required to wear masks** in classrooms and inside the school building. Pupils will continue to remain in year group bubbles.

## Next academic year

We remain optimistic that restrictions will be eased for our return to school in September. In line with the guidance we are expecting to begin the new academic year by offering lateral flow tests to all pupils and staff. Full details of the arrangements for the start of term will be sent out over the summer period.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during this challenging year. With your cooperation we aim to safely reach the summer break.

Sincerely,

T. Hartney CBE

