



Important notes and updates for parents/carers – September 2021

We thought it would be helpful to clarify several areas early in the school year, as well as providing information that might answer some of the queries that parents/carers have.

Topic	Notes
Holidays	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The DfE and government have made it very clear that children should not be on holiday during term time. Consequently, we are unable to authorise a leave of absence, unless there are truly exceptional circumstances. We hope you appreciate our position.• Please note that we must reply to requests with a standard letter, which also states that you <u>may be subject</u> to a penalty notice. Again, we hope you understand that we have guidance to follow.
Earrings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We relaxed our policy of no earrings but please ensure that the children only wear small studs in school – they are much safer.• National guidance states that children should not wear earrings in PE or sporting activities. All pupils must remove earrings before PE/swimming (or sports clubs). If your child is unable to remove their own earrings, please do this before school.
Snacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We have several children with life threatening allergies to nuts. Please do not send any nut based food into school, in snack or lunch packs.• Morning snacks should be healthy options such as fruit and cereal bars.
Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please confirm your consent for clubs via the Arbor Parent Portal.• If you are unable to select a 'Membership Period' this means that the club is full (we hope Arbor can tweak this so it states when they are full).
Uniform	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name tags – please ensure your child's uniform and PE kits are labelled with their names.• Many items with no name in have been misplaced.•
PE Kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please note that PE kit should only be worn on the days your child has PE. They should wear uniform on all other days and change for swimming and extra-curricular clubs.
COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tests – if your child has one of the 3 main symptoms (temperature, a persistent dry cough and loss of taste or smell) please take them for a PCR test. Many other common symptoms have been headache, upset stomach or snuffle/sore throat. If in any doubt, please take a Lateral Flow test and/or arrange a PCR test, as they are more definitive.• Self-isolation – children or adults with both vaccinations do not have to isolate if someone in their household has symptoms or tests positive. Please be cautious as family members are at greater risk. We suggest daily/regular testing to help protect each other and our community from spreading the virus.