



# Somerford Primary School

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Headteacher : Mrs H Frampton

12<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents

## Parent Consultations and COVID19

BCP have asked us to pass the following statement to you:

*BCP Council has one of the highest attendance rates in the country at the moment, testimony to all of the hard work that has gone on to ensure pupils and school employees can return safely and get on with the crucial business of educating children, and the range of benefits this brings including social and emotional benefits.*

*We are grateful to parents who have supported their schools by understanding that the less time that they spend at school gates, or on premises, the more likely we are to be able keep schools fully open for as long as possible. Your schools all wish that they could invite you on to site for parents' evenings, open visits and to meet with teachers face to face. However, we have asked them to limit access to adults who work in school or have professional duties that require attending school in person.*

*We are urging all schools and providers to continue to take all necessary measures to limit the number of adults coming onto the premises, including parents. Almost all confirmed cases in BCP schools have been sourced in family circles. Even with the best planning in a COVID safe way, we know that transmission can and does occur from events that involve more than a handful of people. Reducing the number of people coming into schools from the community is one of the surest ways of limiting the risk of transmission of COVID. The fewer positive cases we have in a school setting, the less likelihood of having to send children and teaching staff home to self-isolate. This position was fully supported by the Our Dorset COVID-19 Health Protection Board which meets regularly to review risks in key settings like schools, as part of our responsibility to deliver an effective local outbreak management plan.*

As a result of this, we will not be able to offer face to face parent consultation meetings this term. However, we do still really want to talk to you about your child's progress this half term and how we will be supporting them in their next steps. We also want to discuss any concerns or issues you may have and how you can continue to support your child at home.

Therefore, we will be offering this meeting via Zoom for Years 2, 5 and 6. The other groups will be using phone calls and we will ask for feedback on which was most effective in case we are in this situation next term. Zoom can be accessed via a phone, tablet or computer. If you are not able to access Zoom from home, please let us know.

You will be able to sign up for a Zoom slot as usual and your child's class teacher will allocate you a time for the meeting and provide you with a Zoom meeting code and password. Please be in the waiting room 2 minutes before your time slot as, if delayed, other parents will be kept waiting.

The Zoom calls will be 10 minutes and we will need to keep to time. Children with an EHCP will be allocated a 20 minute consultation.

If your child has SEN and has a support plan, we would usually share this with you at this meeting and ask you to sign the plan. This term your child's class teacher will send two copies of the plan home. One for you to keep, and one to sign and return to school.

Thank you for your understanding in this very difficult situation.

Please return to your child's class teacher.

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>		<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	
3.45-4.15		3.45-4.15	
4.15-4.45		4.15-4.45	
4.45-5.15		4.45-5.15	
5.15-5.45		5.15-5.45	
		5.45-6.15	

Siblings \_\_\_\_\_ Classes \_\_\_\_\_

If you are not able to access Zoom on a phone, tablet or computer, please let us know.