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Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday, the Prime Minister announced the releasing of measures to control the spread of COVID 19 which will take place as 'step four' from Monday 19th July. At the same press conference, Professor Chris Whitty outlined the three reasons he would still wear a face mask, after lockdown ends, in the three following situations:

1. If indoors and crowded, or indoors with close proximity to other people. He said this was because masks protect other people.
2. If required to wear a mask by any competent authority.
3. If someone else was uncomfortable with him not wearing a mask common courtesy would then mean putting on a face covering.

Yesterday, Health Secretary Sajid Javid and Education Secretary Gavin Williamson addressed the house of commons regarding changes to restrictions in line with the latest step of the roadmap. Gavin Williamson said, 'We all owe a great debt of gratitude to pupils, parents and teachers who have given up so much as we have taken action to save lives.' He added that step four, 'Does not mean the end of the pandemic, but the government is moving to a new phase of managing Covid.'

Locally, we have an increase of confirmed cases in primary and secondary schools. This has resulted in, for example, Tendring Technology College keeping all Year 7 and 8 students at home until the end of the term and Burrsville Infant Academy closing completely for two days and some classes not immediately returning to school after those two days.

Having carefully considered the recent announcements, the local situation and our specific context, I can confirm that our current risk assessment will continue to be applied and that we will continue, as planned, with the various events due to take place between now and the end of term.

During the summer holiday, we will keep our risk assessment and operational plan under review. Our approach is supported by our Local School Board.

If you have any questions about the above, please speak to myself, Mr Holton or Mrs Levett.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Carter-Tufnell
(Headteacher)