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To Parents of Children due to start in Early Years or Foundation Stage in September 2021

Dear Parents

On Friday 18th June, Buckinghamshire Council issued a new document 'Updated Principles for Transition Days'. Within this new guidance it was stated that there has been a significant increase in COVID outbreaks in educational settings over the past month, mostly caused by the Delta variant. Following due consideration of the prevalence of Covid in Buckinghamshire and neighbouring areas, government advice and health and safety advice has led the Local Authority to recommend that Transition Days for our new pupils become virtual events. For this reason we have had to take the decision to cancel the planned induction visits to the Early Years class and the Foundation Stage classes on Tuesday 6th July and Tuesday 13th July. Guidance also suggests that all evening meetings for parents also need to be held virtually so please take this letter as notice of the cancellation of all such planned events for the remainder of this academic year. We are obviously sorry for this late notice but we have acted as soon as we possibly could, given this new guidance.

We will continue to provide all necessary transition information via the Transition tabs on our school website www.johnhampdenwendover.co.uk and we will send you an email each week telling you what we are uploading and what you need to do. We will also make sure there are videos for you and your child to watch instead.

As we are not able to provide opportunities for children to visit the school this term we have made the decision to provide the two induction visits on Thursday 2nd September and Friday 3rd September 2021 instead. So, at the very start of the Autumn Term, your children will attend school from 9.30am until 11.30am on the first two days and then their first full sessions will start from Monday 6th September. Please note, this means there will be no Out of School Care provision for Early Years and Foundation Stage pupils until Monday 6th September.

Within the first two weeks of term, all being well, we will invite EYFS parents to a meeting to provide further information about the school.

So, once again, apologies for the changes we are being directed to take – we will do our best to provide the best 'virtual' transition possible – if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sue Barnes & Steph Parkinson

