



7 September 2020

Dear Parents

Information and Parental Agreement Form for activities involving close contact at Fox Wood School

As part of the curriculum at Fox Wood, your child accesses some or all of the following activities or interventions:- Massage, Dance massage, Maths massage, Sherborne movement, Physiotherapy programmes. These techniques or activities are used for several reasons and promote the following benefits:-

- 1) To enable pupils to make sense of the world and process information, for example Maths massage concentrates on Mathematical concepts such as size, shape, numbers and counting and Sherborne works on problem solving abilities
- 2) To enable pupils to maintain and improve what their bodies are able to do in terms of range of movement and flexibility of muscles, e.g. Physio programmes to ensure that pupils are regularly moved and exercised, under guidance from a Physiotherapist
- 3) To encourage and enable communication e.g. pupils making requests for specific movements or parts of their body to be moved during massage, dance massage or physio
- 4) To improve pupils' well-being and mental health through interaction with familiar staff and access to all the above named activities, which are vital for the maintenance of the physical body as well as for inducing a state of relaxation and calm.
- 5) To enable independence and autonomy e.g. pupils making choices and movements to express themselves artistically through dance massage.

Our Home- school agreement for our September full re-opening 2020 states that we will :-

“Be honest with you that Social Distancing is impossible in our school and with our pupils”

and this is clearly pertinent for the activities listed above. However, we also promise that we will:-

“Provide learning opportunities linked to a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils”

and those above are an important part of what we offer to your child. There is no guidance provided by the Government about massages and therapies in schools, although professional massage therapists are permitted to work again from July 2020, as long as PPE is used.

Teaching staff and the Senior leadership team have consulted over how to proceed with the predicament about keeping pupils safe while also providing learning experiences vital to their development and well-being at Fox Wood.

We will be offering the above activities as part of our usual timetable in class and using PPE while working so closely with your child. (PPE in this context refers to staff wearing non-medical grade aprons, gloves and a face covering which covers their mouth and nose) However, we acknowledge that keeping your child safe is of paramount importance and as such we would like to offer you the option to opt out of these close activities should you feel this is the right thing to do.

Please indicate below which of the activities you would be happy for your child to participate in, with staff using PPE to maximise their safety. However, we must stress the importance of your child receiving regular Physiotherapy input (following their Physio plan) and should you wish to opt out of our staff working with your child on their plan, you would therefore be agreeing to carry out sufficient input of their plan at home.

Many thanks

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Reply slip

I am happy for my child to participate with the following activities in school with staff using PPE throughout:

PLEASE PUT A LINE THROUGH/ CROSS OUT ANY ACTIVITIES YOU **DO NOT** WISH YOUR CHILD TO TAKE PART IN

If you are happy for your child to participate in all, please **ONLY SIGN** below:-

Dance massage

Sherborne

Maths Massage

Massage

Physiotherapy input from class team (I agree that I will provide the required input at home should I decide to opt out of provision available at school)

Thank you

Signed :

Pupil Name: