

Wednesday 12th January, 2022

## Dear Parents,

I need to make you aware that we now have a small number of children in <u>Year 4</u> who have tested positive for Covid-19. Following consultation with Public Health we have been advised to share with you the following information and advice;

We appreciate that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation very carefully. We are working closely with Public Health to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and minimise disruption to our children.

This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

## How you can support our safety measures?

Children who test positive should isolate in line with Government guidelines.

All children in Year 4 are now advised to take <u>daily</u> LFD tests before attending school for a period of <u>7 days</u>. Outbreak control measures are also in place within the setting and being kept under review.

We would like to avoid switching to remote learning if possible so your support with this measure is therefore vital.

## If your child is well

The school remains open. If your child remains well and symptom free, they can continue to attend school as normal.

In addition to daily LFD testing for the children in the class, we have been advised to encourage household members (aged 11 and over) to continue with twice weekly LFD testing to help identify cases promptly.

Whilst daily testing for 7 days is your choice, it is **strongly encouraged** as it helps to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community. (LFD tests are available via community testing sites, local pharmacies or you can order online for home delivery).

## If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), people who receive positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be required to self-isolate immediately and *won't* be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

People who test positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate at home until they are well (48 hours fever free) and either:

- a) 10 full days have passed, or
- b) They have produced two negative LFD tests at least 24 hours apart, with the first taken **no earlier than day 6**.

<u>Note</u>: Lingering coughs and changes to smell/taste are not a sign of ongoing infectiousness, so children can return to school if they have ended their self-isolation period (see above).

If your child does not have symptoms, count the day they took the test as day 0. If they subsequently develop symptoms, they will need to restart their isolation period using the day symptoms developed as day 0.

You can seek advice on COVID-19 symptoms from the nhs.uk website. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at https://111.nhs.uk/ or by phoning 111.

Remote learning will be made available for children who are isolating at home however, please be aware that we do not expect school work to be completed by any child who is unwell as rest and recuperation will be the priority

If you need any help or advice, please do not hesitate in contacting the school. Thank you in anticipation of your support with these measures.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jodie Flynn Headteacher