



Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

Dear Parents,

As you are aware, we have a number of children in **Year 6** 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, so 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.

### **What are we already doing?**

Children who have tested positive are isolating. All children in Year 6 are advised to take daily LFD tests before attending school for a period of **7 days**. Outbreak control measures are also in place within the setting and being kept under review.

At the moment, although we have not reinstated 'bubbles, we are consciously restricting the mixing of the children where possible. As we currently have this issue in Year 6 the children will temporarily eat their lunch in their classroom bubble. We have been advised that they are safe to mix outdoors with other children (but we will keep this closely monitored).

The hygiene measures including frequent hand washing are still in place (although the frequency has increased again) and the classroom surfaces incl. door handles and resources are being regularly cleaned with an anti-viral spray. Daily fogging is ongoing to ensure classroom surfaces are sterilised. Staff have also been asked to monitor the children's close contacts carefully. Classrooms continue to be well ventilated also.

Please be aware that if the cases numbers continue to rise, we may have to consider switching the whole class to (temporary) remote learning. This decision will be made in discussion with advisors from Public Health.

### **If your child is well**

The school remains open. If your child remains well, they can continue to attend school as normal but please ensure a lateral flow test is undertaken before they arrive at school. We would like to avoid switching to remote learning if possible so your support with this measure is therefore vital.

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), From tomorrow, 11<sup>th</sup> January, 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**.

Note: 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