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17<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Apologies for the late delivery of this letter, but this information was given to me as the children were leaving school this afternoon.

Obviously, the health and wellbeing of our children, young people and families remains our highest priority and we appreciate the support and understanding you have provided during this pandemic.

This week several positive cases of Covid-19 have been reported to the school. As this has reached a total of five cases in one class, we have had to contact Public Health.

In outbreak situations such as this and where cases may continue to increase, Government Guidance enables us to apply additional measures. Based on our Risk Assessment and discussion with our Public Health Outbreak Team, these will now include:

1. The return of 'bubbles' in school to minimise the spread of Covid-19 to others.
2. The re-introduction of staggered starts and ends to the day in order to minimise contact between year groups – please read carefully the Covid-19 Outbreak Management Plan attached. We appreciate this may be difficult with such short notice, so please do just do your best tomorrow and hopefully this can all be in place for Friday.
3. Advising the wearing of face masks for all parents when bringing children to or collecting children from school.
4. Advising all staff and visitors to wear face masks in corridors when moving between lessons.
5. Temporarily stopping face to face assemblies and visits for some year groups where we have an outbreak.
6. Requesting Daily LFD testing (7 days) for close contacts in schools, (pupils can attend school unless positive or symptomatic) – specific Year groups will have been or will be informed of this.
7. Further measures based on School's Risk Assessment and Public Health advice.

We would also like to emphasise some key points to help us manage further, so we can minimise disruption to education.

This includes:

1. Notifying us as soon as possible **if your child has had a positive Covid-19 test**
2. Making sure if your child has symptoms of Covid-19, they isolate and book a test immediately, **then follow the advice given when you get the result**
3. If your child has other symptoms or is not feeling well, then they must stay away from school as normal if they are unwell and **book a PCR test**.  
You can book a test online and click the option that says: "My local council or health protection team has asked me (or someone I live with) to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms." **If the result is positive your child will need to isolate as per guidance.**
4. Begin routine twice weekly Lateral Flow testing at home for all families. Anyone who has previously received a positive Covid-19 PCR test result should not be re-tested within 90 days of that test unless they develop any new symptoms of Covid-19.

We will of course continue with our enhanced cleaning, ventilation and hygiene measures.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. I will keep you informed of any updates as and when I know, but if you have any questions about these measures, please contact the school office.

Best wishes.

Gill Finney  
Headteacher