



Windermere Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID-19 – Positive Cases

Unfortunately, we have a small number of confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Year 4. Naturally, these children are now absent from school and we are continuing with our rigorous handwashing and cleaning regimes.

It is no longer a requirement to automatically close the 'bubble' and we are following the advice of the local health protection team. We have been very fortunate to avoid this situation up until now and it was to some extent inevitable with increased social interactions outside of school. The affected children mostly seem to have only mild symptoms, if any at all and currently the only confirmed cases are in Year 4. However, you may wish to limit your child's interaction with elderly or vulnerable people for the next week or so.

If your child is considered a *close contact*, you will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and you may be asked to arrange a PCR test for your child as soon as possible. You do not need to arrange a PCR test for your child just because they are in the same class unless they show symptoms.

However, if you are contacted by NHS Test and Trace to carry out a PCR test or your child shows COVID-19 symptoms, (in which case you should book a PCR test - not a rapid lateral flow test), you should keep your child at home until you receive a negative result.

I know that we are all looking out for the symptoms of COVID-19:

- **New continuous cough**
- **Change or loss of taste/smell**
- **High temperature or fever**

but over the next couple of weeks you should be particularly vigilant. Other symptoms that have been seen in children are **fatigue, headache, sore throat, sneezing and loss of appetite.**



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If you are at all unsure you should book a PCR test for your child. Parents of affected children in Year 4 have reported headache and upset stomach as particular symptoms. They have also said that after one day of feeling unwell, their children have appeared back to normal afterwards. As a result we are asking parents to book a PCR test (tick the box 'You have been asked to test') even if these symptoms seem mild or to have passed.

Reducing the Risk

In order to reduce any further transmission within our school community (children, parents and staff):

- Parents are asked to once again **wear masks and maintain a social distance** when they are picking up at the end of the day or dropping off in the morning.
- Children must not be allowed to play on the playground equipment after school as this is used on a rota by set groups of children.
- Parents and Carers should use the rapid lateral flow tests twice a week to ensure that they are not carrying the virus but not showing symptoms.
- It will also be necessary to restrict meetings with parents until after half term and sadly Reception's planned Phonics for Parents session will need to be postponed for a few weeks.

Hopefully with these steps in place, we will be able to resume normal service very soon.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact the school office and we will do our best to help or advise you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Raftery

Headteacher

P.S. For Year 6 parents - this is the email that I referred to in *your* earlier email...