



Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021

### Covid cases in school

Dear Families,

Yesterday we had our **2<sup>nd</sup> confirmed case of covid19**, following a positive PCR test. Both these cases were identified, because of the vigilance of staff here in school, in identifying symptoms that could be covid. It means that the risk of transmission was quickly reduced as close contacts were identified and asked to self isolate.

Whenever we are informed of a positive case, we contact the Local Authority Outbreak Management Team and they inform us of what we need to do.

We understand that at this time of the year, there are many children with coughs and colds and as we are not experts, we cannot be certain as to whether they are just coughs and colds, or covid. Therefore as the 2 positive cases in school have been coughs, we are being very cautious and sending children home to get a PCR test.

Whilst we **cannot insist that you book a PCR test** for your child, when families chose not to do it, it means that a child may be absent unnecessarily and school is left wondering it was a positive case. It could mean that transmission may be more likely, with the risks to staff and children and vulnerable people in their households..

We do not want any child to miss school, but currently our guidance from the government and local authority is that anyone displaying symptoms

- Persistent new cough
- High temperature
- Lack of smell and taste

should get a PCR and self isolate with their household until the results are back.

As you may be aware , the government are looking at their guidance for schools for the autumn term and as soon as we are informed of any changes to what we are currently doing, we will let you know.

Thank you for your understanding at this very difficult time.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Mardell (Mrs)

Head Teacher

