

25.3.2021



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this message finds you all well and managing as best as possible in the present challenging times. As we approach the Easter holidays we are again being asked to monitor and respond to any COVID cases in our pupils or staff. I will be using the same system that has been in place for school holiday periods throughout the last 12 months.

Firstly it is again wonderful to have been able to get through this half term, including welcoming everyone back, without a positive COVID-19 case across the pupils and staff of our three settings. As we disperse from school tomorrow to enjoy the Easter period we will continue to need your help, support and cooperation in our work to keep our schools open and safe next term. It is really important that over Easter, particularly as restrictions begin to ease, that we all think very carefully about what we are doing, where we are going and who we are associating with. Being vigilant in all areas of our lives over the next two weeks is vital if we are to continue to suppress infection rates and to minimise opportunities for virus transmission. It is reassuring that so far the vast majority of our wider community has been following these rules and it is vital if we are to keep the schools fully open next term that everyone continues to do so. As England's chief medical officer, Professor Chris Whitty, has told the public before "keep it small, keep it short, keep it local, and think of the most vulnerable people".

The best advice is to consider that just because we can do something does not mean that we should.

If a member of your household displays COVID symptoms at any time you must isolate at home and get tested. Throughout the pandemic head teachers have been on-call 7 days a week to respond to Public Health Officers if a positive case occurs in children or staff in their schools. This expectation is continuing over the Easter holiday period. Over the holidays I need to be informed if your child develops COVID symptoms and that you have booked a test. I also need to be informed of the test outcome as Public Health test and trace will be relying on me to share with them details of any close contacts that may have occurred while children were still at school during the last week of term. This is also the case for any positive lateral flow device tests that our older children and all of our staff are undertaking twice a week. I will need to communicate key information with families if their child is identified as a close contact. To enable parents and carers to do this I will again be using the special email account created earlier in the year solely for this purpose over the school holiday periods. This is the only email that I will be monitoring each day so please do not use any other school email (including individual teacher emails) or the school phone number to communicate with me over the next two weeks.

Easter holiday COVID email: mrdeanehall@gmail.com

It is also important that we know of any positive test results, isolation periods and pupil absence from school as term starts again on Monday 12th April. This information can be shared with me using the email above and can also be communicated to us directly via phone on Monday 12th April 2021. At the moment we are expecting all of our COVID secure procedures will continue next term and we will share all further information regarding schools as it is released by the government.

From everyone here in school we wish you a very Happy Easter.

Keep safe

Mr Deane-Hall