Remaining safe in Primary school.

Dear Parent/Carer

While coming back to school is a really important step that we need to take for your child' education, including their mental and physical wellbeing. I appreciate the new school year will raise some concerns among you as to what will happen should there be a positive case at their school

Please remember and reassure your child that, for most people, coronavirus should be a mild illness. But we all need to remain vigilant by watching out for symptoms of coronavirus.

I hope the below information will help you to understand the process and to see how closely we are all working together to keep the risk related to reopening our schools to all year groups, to a minimum.

We have a four step process to tackling Coronavirus. These are:

1. Avoiding those with symptoms and keeping risk of transmission to a minimum.

2. Getting tested

3. Identifying and isolating contacts of positive cases.

4. Keeping risk of transmission to a minimum;

Firstly, avoiding those with symptoms. We need to prevent Coronavirus coming to school. We need to keep to the national guidance to prevent our children passing on the virus and catching the virus. Like every autumn/winter there are many illnesses which are going to be circulating this term, but it is more important this year that if your child is unwell to keep them home until they have been tested. Likewise, if anyone in the household is unwell, if you as a parent you start to feel unwell, do not send your child into school until you have been tested.

We need to keep the risk of transmission to a minimum, children will remain in tight bubbles and groups to prevent mixing with peers and transmission to other bubbles or groups.

Secondly, testing. If your child or anyone in the household is showing coronavirus symptoms get them tested immediately. If you're not sure it could be coronavirus. Get a test. If in doubt, test. Anyone with coronavirus symptoms

should test negative before your child returns to school. If your child is positive inform the school <u>immediately</u>.

Finally, If your child has symptoms we need the test result, positive or negative to enable us assure our community that we are doing all we can to prevent the opportunity for spread of Coronavirus in the school. As soon as we are informed someone has tested positive we will be swiftly isolating close contacts. If your child needs to self-isolate as a close contact they should isolate for 14days – the household do not need to isolate unless your child themselves develops symptoms.

<u>So, what happens if there's a case or an outbreak at your child's school?</u>

- As soon as we are informed of a person positive for Coronavirus in school we act immediately. We identify all close contacts of that person and inform them not to come to school/ send them home to self-isolate for 14days. This prevents the virus from spreading in school.
- When we get two individuals who are positive in a school community (within 14 days) we class the situation as an outbreak.
- The school works with PHE and the Public Health team at Warwickshire County Council for the best advice on next steps.

Schools are being advised on number of measures, these are:

- Ensuring that social distancing is used at every opportunity
- Reminding pupils around good hand hygiene and good respiratory hygiene "catch it, bin it, kill it".
- Keeping children in bubbles or groupings; such as class groups, we minimise the close contacts children can have.

I hope that that addresses some of your questions. Please talk to us at school if you have any further concerns and I hope that your child enjoys returning or starting with us.

Yours sincerely

A H Simpson

Headteacher