

## Bottisham Community Primary School



Headteacher: Rachael Johnston

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the summer term! We hope that you had a pleasant half term and had the opportunity to enjoy some of the lovely sunshine. The staff have been very busy making preparations for some of the children to return to school this week and we welcomed our key worker families back this morning. Following our return, there are a few key pieces of information for both those coming back to school and those staying at home that we feel it is important to share with you.

### **Cases of Coronavirus:**

The main symptoms of Coronavirus are:

- A recent onset of a new continuous cough or
- A high temperature or
- A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

If you or your child have these symptoms, however mild, you must stay at home and not leave your house for at least 7 days from when your symptoms started, or 14 days (if you live with someone who has symptoms).

Your child displays coronavirus symptoms <b>at home</b>	<b>Your child MUST not come to school</b> Contact the school office as soon as possible Arrange for your child to have a test for coronavirus Inform the school as soon as the test result is received Your child must remain isolated for a minimum of 7 days
Your child displays coronavirus symptoms <b>at school</b>	You will be asked to collect them <b>immediately</b> Your child will be placed in isolation until you collect them Arrange for your child to have a test for coronavirus Inform the school as soon as the test result is received Your child must remain isolated for a minimum of 7 days
Your child is in a group with a child or member of staff who has symptoms of coronavirus	We will inform parents and carers if there is an individual in the group displaying symptoms of coronavirus The group will continue to remain open unless the

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	individual has a confirmed positive test (see below)
Your child is in a group with a child or member of staff with <b>confirmed</b> coronavirus	All staff and children within the group will be asked to remain at home and to isolate for 14 days <b>If the children are at school when the test is confirmed, you will be asked to collect them immediately</b> Other members of the household do not need to isolate unless the child develops symptoms.
A member of your household has symptoms of coronavirus	You and your child must isolate at home for 14 days

**Children who display symptoms of coronavirus will not be able to return to school until they have had a test.** We will require parents and carers to provide us with evidence in the case of a negative test result before the child can return.

You can book a test for coronavirus by following the link below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

### **Staff absence:**

We currently have a limited number of staff who are available to be in school at the moment. Whilst we are able to run the groups that we have offered, it does mean that in the case of teacher absence, **we do not have the capacity to provide cover.** Therefore, **we will not be able to have your child in school if the teacher leading their group is absent.** This is not a decision that we take lightly but under the current circumstances, we do not have any other option.

This may also be the case if staff are required to isolate under the NHS Test and Trace programme.

### **Google Classroom & Home Learning:**

As the majority of teaching staff will now be in school leading groups, those staff not in school will be overseeing the provision of work on Google Classroom for those children still at home. We still intend to provide the same amount of work but we feel it is important to make you aware that whilst teachers will continue to monitor the work that the children are doing at home, they will not be able to engage at the same level as they were previously due to their workload in school.

### **Additional year groups returning to school:**

You may be aware that the Government has said that they have the ambition to bring back all children to primary school before the end of the academic year. We feel it is important to make you aware that under the current guidance on social distancing measures that we are required to implement, we would not have the physical space to accommodate other year groups returning. If the guidance changes to allow us to have a greater number of children in each classroom, then we will, of course, be able to plan for other year groups to return.

Thank you for all your ongoing support and patience during this difficult period of time. Many of the staff are parents themselves and are experiencing the same challenges and frustrations as you. We are continuing to work hard to make sure that we are able to

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welcome the children back to school in a way that ensures that safety and wellbeing of all our pupils and staff.

Yours faithfully,

Rachael Johnston

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