



Plaistow and Kirdford Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr C King

21st June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I begin this letter by expressing my sincere gratitude for all of your support at school since we reopened back in March. School is running almost as normal and the atmosphere around school is positive, buzzing and it is such a fun place to be.

At the moment, locally at least, it does feel like Covid-19 is not such an issue. However, there has been a recent surge in cases in our locality secondary schools and the rates of incidence have increased more rapidly in the age ranges of 10-14 year olds than in other age groups.

At school, we really need your help over the next few weeks. If **anyone** in your household has Covid compatible symptoms **it is essential that your whole household isolates** and the person with symptoms is booked to receive a PCR test. The drive-in centres are extremely efficient and you can normally expect to receive a result within 24 hours. A Lateral Flow Test (LFT) is not to be used as an alternative to the PCR test.

If you report to school that your child has had a fever or temperature we will be asking parents and carers to arrange a PCR test. **If you report that your child has had a temperature your whole household should isolate until the results of a PCR test are returned negative.** If a sibling of a child who has Covid-19 compatible symptoms comes to school we will contact you to arrange collection until a PCR test has been completed.

What to look out for in you or your child:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

What do you do if you observe any of these symptoms in you or your child:

1. **Get a PCR test** (test that is sent to a lab) to check if you have COVID-19 as soon as possible.
2. **You and anyone you live with should stay at home** and not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

The NHS website goes on to say: ***Anyone in your childcare or support bubble should also stay at home if you have been in close contact with them since your symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started.***





As always, we are extremely grateful for parents and carers support in adhering to this guidance – it helps keep our whole community safe.

For more information regarding our Covid arrangements in school, please visit the Covid-19 section of our website.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mr King", is written over the typed name.

Mr King