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3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

Dear parents,

I hope this finds you all well.

I just wanted to update you all regarding COVID19. Once again we are in uncertain times with rising cases across the city and the new variant and what this means for school. The current guidance is vague so we have interpreted it to meet the needs of our school. We continue to promote good hand hygiene, washing hands and using alcohol hand gel regularly. We still have additional cleaning in school during the day paying attention to contact points such as door handles and rails.

In addition:

- We have currently made the decision to limit visitors to the school in a bid to protect all. Any urgent visits will go ahead with the visitor wearing a mask at all times in school.
- Secondary children and staff are advised to wear masks in communal areas and on transport. We appreciate that for our children this is tricky and they are exempt, so please make the decision that you feel is right for your child. Children in primary can choose to do so if they wish.
- Pupils in secondary and all staff are strongly advised to an LFT twice a week. We will be sending a box of 7 kits home with secondary pupils before we break up for Christmas.
- If your child is in school and shows any symptoms, including a cough, temperature, change in taste or smell we will need to request that you collect your child and take them for a PCR – this is the test that is done at a test centre and not an LFT test at home. This is government guidelines.

If your child has been a contact of a positive case, there is no need to isolate UNLESS they show symptoms. You will receive a letter that is a generic one advising you of the contact and stating that your child should get a PCR but will not need to isolate. This PCR is precautionary.

It is so difficult to distinguish between typical coughs and colds and COVID, so we do have to be cautious. PCR results are being given in 24 – 48 hours.

Please rest assured, as a school we continue to do everything we can to prevent the virus spreading.

Many thanks for your continuous support.

Emma Pearce



Birmingham Special Schools'  
Co-operative Trust

