

Whitefield Primary School

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COVID-19

Dear Parents and Carers

As you may be aware, cases of COVID-19 in school are currently high and are continuing to increase. I would like to reassure you that we are doing all we can to limit the spread by putting increased measures in place whilst at the same time trying to maintain a positive and supportive learning environment for the children.

We continue to follow the risk assessment that was put in at the start of the pandemic. This is reviewed regularly and updated in accordance with advice received from the DFE and Public Health England. As a result, we have reintroduced some of the measures that were in place previously. These include:

- lunches in the classroom for KS2 and where we have high levels of COVID-19
- reduced contact
- zoom assemblies
- reduction in the number of visitors in school
- Parents to wear masks when talking to class teachers
- Maintaining social distance on the playground

Hopefully these measures will start to have an impact. It has been suggested today during a meeting with Dr Sakthi Karunaithi, Director of Public Health for Lancashire that we advise parents of a number of further measures to put in place. These are:

- To carry out lateral flow tests for 7 days if your child has come into contact with someone with COVID-19
- If there has been close contact to go for a PCR test even if they do not currently have symptoms
- To keep children off school if a member of the household has tested positive to prevent the spread

- To keep children off school if they are experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19.

Symptoms of COVID-19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

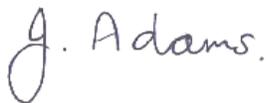
Other symptoms that people may experience are:

- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- tiredness
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhoea

Thank you for your help and support. We appreciate that this may cause some difficulties, but we are hoping that if we can all work together on this, then we will quickly reduce the further spread of COVID-19 to others in school and in the local community. Hopefully these will be relatively short term measures.

We will endeavour to provide home learning resources for those children who are able to continue with learning whilst not in school. If you have any questions or queries around this then please contact school.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Adams
Deputy Headteacher