 Wharton Primary School

 Work Hard Persevere Succeed

17th September 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have almost completed 2 weeks back at school with (at time of writing) no positive cases of Covid in our school Community. The measures we have in school seem to be working for us, but we mustn’t relax, we will continue to be vigilant in keeping everyone in school safe.

You will be aware that the numbers continue to rise locally and that access to testing is a real issue nationally, but seems to be particularly difficult in our area.

Advice we are given is updated regularly and we respond to the changing local picture. Here are some reminders (and some changes) to what we need to do;

* If your child has any of the 3 main symptoms (high temperature, new persistent cough or changes to their sense of taste or smell) DO NOT SEND THEM TO SCHOOL. Ideally you should try to get a test but we know that’s difficult. In the absence of a test, we have to assume that the symptoms are Covid and the child will need to isolate for 10 days at least. They should be free of high temperature for 48 hours before returning to school, though the cough & loss of taste/smell may linger for some weeks. The rest of the household should isolate for 14 days.
* If you manage to get a test and it comes back positive – the same measures must be observed. Please inform school.
* If the test comes back as negative, the child may return to school as soon as they are well enough to do so.
* If your child displays any other symptoms, which may be a secondary indicator, keep them off school if they are unwell and monitor for any new symptoms. If they have one symptom (eg runny nose) and are otherwise well enough to be in school, bring them in and let us know. We will monitor them for any new symptoms and contact you if we have any concerns.
* The advice is that people should only book a test if they have 1 of the 3 main symptoms.
* In the event of a child (or adult) in school testing positive, all people in that ‘bubble’ will be sent home to isolate for 14 days. Work will be provided on Purple Mash should that happen.

I would urge you to ensure that your families are observing all the guidelines for social distancing. It will only take one person to unknowingly bring the virus into school and it could spread very quickly and be taken back into the community.

If you have any questions or concerns or are just ‘not sure’ please contact school and we’ll do our best to help.

There have been a couple of incidents outside school at the beginning & end of the day with cars being driven too quickly into the lane in front of school. Please be mindful of small children and the risk it presents to them.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Watson