

'A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together'

Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School

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19th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Covid-19 Update

Although we have been fully back at school from March 8th, other national restrictions are still in place. Please support and follow the guidance in full, helping us all to keep local infection rates down as much as possible.

I have been informed today that a primary school very close to us has had to close due to several confirmed cases in several classes. Please can you remain vigilant and follow the steps that I have outlined in my communications to you. I appreciate that we all want to get back to normality and school is an integral part of this. I want us, as I know you will, to remain open and never have to close a class bubble or the whole school again.

Please can you ensure that you wear face masks as you line up (not just as you are coming into the playground) and that you keep a safe distance from one another. It is also important that households do not join together for play dates or social events and that childcare / support bubbles remain discrete as per the guidance. I appreciate that we all want to do these activities but the virus is still clearly in our communities and guidance is clear that we should not be going to each other's gardens or homes just yet.

I am as keen as you all are to get through this without having to revert to remote learning again. It will take a big effort from us all to make that happen. There is still a very real need to ensure that we all play our parts in ensuring that this is the very last period of full lockdown. Please do remember that schools returning are the very first major change to lockdown and any surge in infections could slow the route back to 'normality'.

Covid symptoms

If you or someone in your immediate family develops one or more of the following symptoms then you should inform school, self-isolate and get a test. Please make sure that if you have symptoms you take a PCR test and not a Lateral Flow Test. It is important to stress that Lateral Flow Tests are for asymptomatic testing ONLY. They should only be used for someone who is not showing any symptoms of Covid. All staff in school regularly use LFT tests but if they show any symptoms of Covid;

- 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

they MUST go for a PCR test. This is still the advice for pupils and parents. If your child shows any of the symptoms above, the family should self-isolate, contact school and book a PCR test.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

LFT tests should NOT be used to confirm or not, an individual with symptoms.



As part of our Covid response we will be continuing to inform you if there has been a child within a bubble who is displaying a symptom of Covid 19 via email. All we ask is that you are more vigilant in watching for any symptoms in your child/children. Once we have received the results of the test an email confirming the result will be sent out to the bubble and any further necessary steps will be taken.

Should the test return positive then school will seek advice from the relevant LA and DfE dedicated helplines. A full assessment will be carried out and all those identified as having been in close contact with the affected case will be advised that they stay at home and self-isolate until 10 days after their last contact via the Close contact of a confirmed case letter.

Please note that close contact is defined as any of the following:

- i) being coughed on, or
- ii) having a face-to-face conversation within 1 metre, or
- iii) having unprotected skin-to-skin physical contact, or
- iv) travel in a small vehicle with the case, or
- v) any contact within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer without face-to-face contact
- vi) extended close contact (between 1 and 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with a case.

Please be reassured that the school will continue to put the health, safety and well-being at the forefront of everything we do. We will at all costs try to avoid a full closure as providing that much needed education and social contact is of a great benefit to the rest of the school. As a school we will continue to mitigate the risk to other pupils and staff as much as we can.

Should you require further support or information please don't hesitate to contact me at school.



N M Badger
Principal of Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School
Executive Headteacher for RCSAT