



Willow Lane  
Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Lucy Naylor

29.11.2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## COVID UPDATE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

With the Government's announcement on Sunday, there has been an update to the COVID guidance.

### KEY UPDATES

• **Face coverings, from Tuesday 30 November, are to be worn by all staff and visitors in communal areas of school.** Although face coverings do not need to be worn outdoors, due to the close proximity of our families walking in and out of school, we are strongly recommending parents (or other relatives) to wear a face covering when collecting or dropping off their child.

• **If there is a positive COVID-19 case in your household, the guidance still states that anyone under the age of 18, or anyone fully vaccinated, does not need to self-isolate.**

However, we have rising cases of COVID19 in school and it seems to be that other children in a household are testing positive a few days after. This may be due to difficulties with maintaining social distancing at home and we are urging parents to be cautious, isolate as a family bubble and book PCR tests for the family a couple of days after the positive case.

• **Identifying close contacts will be conducted by NHS Test and Trace. Therefore, please report close contacts to NHS Test and Trace, where possible, if your child tests positive.** We will also send out a letter to parents to inform them when there has been a new positive case in the class after 10 days of the first case. We will continue to carefully monitor absence and illness across the school. If we are informed of a positive case in school, we will inform parents of children in the same class and advise that pupils seek a PCR test.

• **Close contacts to a positive Omicron variant of COVID-19 must self-isolate for 10 days and book at PCR test regardless of age and vaccination status.**

• **Children do not need to be confined to 'bubbles';** however, if we have a rise in COVID cases beyond our threshold, our bubbles will be re-introduced, along with other restrictive measures. We are currently experiencing a rise so these bubbles are in use at present.



· **Children will continue to be encouraged and taught how to follow good hygiene procedures.**

· **Our classrooms will continue to have adequate ventilation, whilst still offering a comfortable teaching environment.** Please note that during this cold snap, we encourage pupils to wear an extra layer – get those vests on! If children would like to come to school in **black jogging bottoms or thick leggings (no logos) and trainers with thick black socks** during this colder spell to ensure warmth and a better grip on the floor, then they are welcome to. We are also looking into other warmer clothing.

For full COVID operational guidance please see further details on our [website](#).

Thank you so much for all your support. We really appreciate everything you are doing to support school. It is a difficult time and we are trying our best to have some Christmas fun with the children and still provide high quality learning for all, whilst balancing decreasing staffing levels! So thank you for bearing with us through this unpredictable time.

Kind regards,

Lucy Naylor  
Headteacher

