

Willow Lane, Lancaster, LA1 5PR. Telephone: 01524 65880 E-mail: head@willow.lancs.sch.uk Website: www.willow.lancs.sch.uk Headteacher: Lucy Naylor

18.11.2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Closing of Year 6 Bubble and staying in Step Up

Reasons for Year 6 Closure

You may be aware that we have sought advice from Lancashire Health Protection Team and have made the decision to close the year 6 bubble and ask that all year 6 children isolate/ do not return to school until Monday 29th.

This decision has been taken with many factors to take into consideration. Such as:

- A break in the virus in year 6 should help to reduce further cases
- Nearly 50% of the class currently have COVID and there are more children at home than in school at present
- The two members of staff supporting the online learning are now COVID positive and cannot facilitate home learning

Therefore, by closing this bubble we will be able to meet the learning needs of more children through online learning with the class teacher and helping to protect our school further.

Reasons for Step Up Procedures

Our school remains open and we continue to stay in <u>step up procedures</u> for all other children in school.

We have taken the decision to stay in Step Up until Christmas. This is because:

- Numbers across the other year groups are extremely low and we want to keep it that way
- Cases are still rising in the local community
- At this time of year there is an expected rise in other winter illnesses
- We have children and staff who would like to be able to be with their families at Christmas

The school's procedures remain the same that if your child is unwell they should not be in school. We will ask you to come and collect your child and book a PCR test if they display any of the main COVID symptoms and when a child is too ill to be in school (but do not display symptoms) we will ask you to collect your child.



If a PCR comes back positive, siblings should be isolating too for the isolation period.

All results should be emailed to <u>clerical@willow.lancs.sch.uk</u>

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England and our Local Health Protection Team. In school we have stepped up procedures and ask that all parents wear masks on drop off and pick up. We have enhanced cleaning procedures, isolated bubbles and reintroduced one way systems.

If you develop <u>symptoms</u> at any time, even if these are mild, self-isolate immediately, <u>arrange to have a COVID-19 PCR test</u> and follow the <u>guidance for people</u> <u>with COVID-19 symptoms</u>.

Further information is available at: <u>https://www.willow.lancs.sch.uk/noticeboard/covid/</u>

Kind regards,

Lucy Naylor Headteacher

