



Rushwick C.E Primary School
 Upper Wick Lane
 Rushwick
 Worcester WR2 5SU
 Tel: (01905) 422502
 E-mail: office@rushwick.worcs.sch.uk

Tuesday 7th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Many of you will be aware that on Monday 6th December we had an increase of positive COVID19 cases within our Year 3 and Year 5 classes. A copy of the letter sent out to the parents /carers of the Year 3 and 5 cohorts regarding this can also be viewed on the school website.

Unfortunately, the threshold for a potential outbreak in a cohort has been met today with two further confirmed cases in Year 5, taking the class total to 6 and the total number of confirmed cases to 10 (4 in Year 3). The threshold for an outbreak in a class is 5, or 10% of the school population (18 pupils in total). Previous to today, the number of cases across our school have been very low (no more than 2 or 3 in any 10 day period), so our existing procedures have enabled the school to operate with excellent levels of attendance and low illness figures. This has been thanks to the wonderful professionalism and hard work of the staff, with the support of the whole community.

Following confirmation of these 6 positive PCR cases in Year 5, the school has had further discussions with the Local Outbreak Response Team (LORT) and is now putting further measures in place across the whole school to control any potential spread of the virus in the lead up to Christmas.

The enhanced measures are:

- The Year 3 and 5 classes will operate as two separate bubbles for the remainder of the term, including playtimes.
- It is with great regret that the KS1 nativity cannot be performed via live performances with parents / carers in attendance. We will be recording it so it can be shared afterwards.
- We are reducing the number of visitors in school and face to face meetings.
- Staff are to wear masks in communal areas.
- Any planned meetings involving groups of parents are to be postponed until the New Year.
- Contact between classes will be minimised – this means there will be no more multi-year group assemblies/collective worship until the end of term.
- Years 3 and 5 will be eating their lunches in their classrooms for the rest of term.
- Interventions for Year 3 and 5 pupils, such as pastoral sessions or catch up learning, have been postponed until the end of term.
- LORT have advised that Year 3 and 5 pupils should also take daily LFT tests for at least the next seven days. If these come back positive, please keep your child off school and book a PCR test immediately.
- The Year 6 parents' Pioneer meeting will be rescheduled for the New Year.
- Year 3 and 5 pupils attending Little Stars will be asked to sit and play separately from the other children for the rest of this term.

- We request that all adults return to wearing masks on the playground.
- We will continue to be vigilant with regular handwashing and ventilation of the classrooms which has been in place since the initial outbreak in March 2020.
- The Christmas Fayre plans and other afterschool events on this day (e.g. KS2 Carol concert) will no longer take place.
- To make it easier for us to track confirmed cases, we ask that parents /carers report positive PCR tests for their children via the following email address: covid@rushwick.worcs.sch.uk. **It is important that you include the 8 digit ctas number.**

Thank you all for your continued support in keeping our school community safe. Your overwhelming messages of support and appreciation for what the school staff have been doing for the children at Rushwick School is deeply appreciated. We will do our utmost to make sure the children have a special time over the next week and a half.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Jeffrey', is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

Geoff Jeffrey, Headteacher