



## THE BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Bishopswood Infant & Junior School  
Barlows Road  
Tadley  
Hampshire  
RG26 3NA

Infant 0118 9812836  
Junior 0118 9812738

Executive Headteacher: Mr G Golding

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to inform you that at the Junior School there have been 2 positive cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) and we are awaiting the results of a further 7 PCR tests from children and staff, following positive LFT results. The Infant school however remains free of COVID-19.

We were fully expecting to have more positive cases from time to time during this next phase of living with COVID-19 in the community. Please be reassured that for most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness, but for some of our children, staff and parents with underlying health conditions, COVID-19 presents a real risk. The purpose of this communication is to remind you of the importance of all pupils and staff, regardless of age, and their families remaining vigilant regarding COVID-19, and indeed other infections, to protect their own health as well as the health of others around them.

We have not been routinely informing you of individual cases as they have occurred, as this is no longer advised by the DfE. This is because, in line with Government guidelines, we will not be restricting the attendance of close contacts who are under 18 years 6 months of age or double vaccinated, only those individuals who have symptoms and/or who have tested positive or close contacts over 18 years 6 months who are not double vaccinated. If your child is identified as a close contact of the confirmed case, you may be contacted by NHS Test and Trace who will advise you on what to do next.

However, due to the number of positive cases and the likelihood of more to come, I am re-introducing some of the protective measures that we had in place last year. As from today the staff will be once again wearing face masks and adhering to social distancing whenever possible. We will also avoid any non-essential large gatherings or face to face meetings. We will continue to ensure ventilation is good, that all contact surfaces are regularly cleaned down and that all staff and children maintain good hand hygiene. Although the positive cases are currently at the Juniors, I am introducing these measures to both schools as we share a site and we have numerous siblings that attend both schools.

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Additionally, can I please ask that from tomorrow morning all parents and carers wear a face mask when on site and try to minimise contact with others. We will set up a face mask station for you to collect one upon arrival if you do not have one already. Our plan is to reintroduce these measures up until half term and then re-evaluate the situation.

Unfortunately the re-introduction of these measures will affect some events we had planned for next week. The PTA will be sending out an additional letter explaining their plans for postponing the spooky disco and a further letter will be sent out to Year 6 parents sharing our plans for completing parent's evening virtually rather than in-person.

I apologise for any inconvenience caused by the re-introduction of these measures. I am hoping that by introducing some additional procedures now we can avoid having to return to class bubbles, staggered starts and ultimately avoid people becoming ill.

I thank you in advance for your support. I know that by working together we can continue to provide the children with an education that is as close to normal as possible whilst keeping everyone safe.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Golding  
Executive Headteacher

**Reminder on what to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19**

*If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. If negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared.*

*If your child has a positive LFT test result (for children aged 11 and above), they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known.*

*If your child has a positive PCR test result but does not have symptoms, they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset.*

*Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via GOV.UK (<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>) or by calling 119.*

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