



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

Tuesday 19th October 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Following my letter dated Thursday 14th October when I shared the information that I was having to reinstate additional protective measures across the Federation, I write once more to inform you that I will be further increasing our measures at the junior school only for the remainder of this week.

As of this morning we have 14 positive PCR tests across the 4 year groups at the juniors. In addition we have a number of children and staff awaiting PCR results due to displaying possible COVID symptoms. As common coughs and colds do present with COVID like symptoms we are fully expecting some of the test outcomes to be negative, but nonetheless we do not want the numbers of positive cases to further increase. Therefore as of today we have reintroduced Class Bubbles and staggered break and lunch times. As of yet we are not introducing staggered start and finish times.

The protective measures that we now currently have in place are:

- Class Bubbles
- Staggered Breaks and Lunch
- Children eating lunch in their bubbles
- Regular hand washing
- Ventilation of all rooms
- No large gatherings for assemblies
- Adults to wear face masks in school
- Parents/Carers to wear face masks when dropping off and picking up.
- Social distance where appropriate.

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I apologise for any inconvenience caused by the re-introduction of these measures. Following the letter last week introducing some of the protective measures I had parents pass on positive and negative views in equal measure. The safety and education of your children is an emotive subject and understandably splits opinion, for every parent that thinks my actions are an overreaction there is a parent that thinks I am not doing enough. I can assure you that I am doing all I can within the perimeters I am being asked to work to keep everybody safe. Currently closing bubbles or asking children to isolate as close contacts is no longer a strategy that is being advised by the DfE and Public Health England. Attendance is compulsory and children should only be absent if they are ill, they display COVID 19 symptoms, they test positive on a PCR or they are informed to isolate by NHS Track and trace.

I am hoping that by introducing these additional measures at the juniors over the next 4 days and then with the 9 days off for half term, that we can return after the break COVID free once more. I ask that you keep us informed of any positive tests during the half term break via our junior admin email: adminoffice@bishopswood-jun.hants.sch.uk, for any positive tests from either the Juniors or Infants.

I will arrange for a letter to be sent out at the end of the half term week to inform you of the situation before the children return on Monday 1st November.

I thank you for your continued support.

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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