

11th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you to inform you that it has come to the school's attention that we have received a number of confirmed, positive cases of Covid-19 in our school. These results have been validated by PCR tests. Although schools are no longer required to assist with contact tracing, we have written to all close contacts and advised them to book a PCR test as soon as is possible to try and limit transmission and prevent disruption to the children's education.

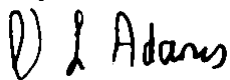
As we know of at least four positive cases in school, we have been advised by the Local Outbreak Control Team to introduce some temporary control measures, in addition to those already in place, to reduce any further spread of the virus. These measures will be reviewed at the beginning of next week, where we hope to be in a position to return to existing arrangements:

- Children will return to working in 'bubbles' for the next week or so and we will revert to the procedures we had in place last year. Please note that we have not been advised to change start and end times to the school day, these remain as they are now. However, we would advise that parents consider their distancing when entering the school grounds and it may be worth considering wearing a face covering in this instance.
- Extra-curricular activities will have to be cancelled this week due to the mixing of groups. It is also with regret that we will have to postpone the disco scheduled for this Friday 15 October. Having spoken to the PFA Chair, volunteers will be available on the KS1 playground from 8.45am to provide refunds to those who have already purchased tickets until a new date can be finalised.
- We will have to revert to parent consultations being conducted virtually next week. If you have already booked your appointment/s, timings won't change. A letter to confirm arrangements for virtual protocol will be sent imminently, once I have agreed this with the class teachers.
- Please remain vigilant at all times. Keep the school office up to date with positive cases at home and monitor your child and all family members.
- Shobnall Stars remains open but movement between groups will be restricted. In addition to the basic control measures (e.g. handwashing, ventilation), please could we ask parents to be mindful of distancing when entering the school.
- If there is a positive case in your household, the Local Outbreak Control Team have advised us to recommend that you reconsider sending your child into school until you deem it safe to do so. A PCR test is advised in this situation, but please be mindful that it may take 2-3 days (in some cases longer) for a positive result to show up on a test after any potential exposure to the virus.

The school remains open and your children should continue to attend as normal if they remain fit and well. Please note, if your child has symptoms, they should not attend school and you should book a PCR test immediately. PCR tests can be booked online through the [NHS Test & Trace website](#) or by calling 119.

Many thanks for your co-operation and understanding. With these temporary measures in place, we should be able to limit any further spread and resume the usual day-to-day running of the school as soon as possible.

Many thanks and kind regards,



Mr D. Adams
Head Teacher