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7th February 2022

Dear Chiddingly Families,

We are writing to inform you that Chiddingly has a number of COVID-19 cases across the school. We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the UK Health Security Agency. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most children, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. You do not need to take any action and your child(ren) should continue to come to school as normal.

The setting remains open and your child(ren) should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. All students and staff, regardless of year group, should remain vigilant regarding COVID-19. All parents are advised to continue with the routine twice weekly asymptomatic LFD COVID-19 testing of those in year 7 and above in the household. As we have had a number of cases in the school within the last 10 days, below are the changes that will be made to the school day for – beginning on Monday 7th February and being reviewed on Monday 21st February. These temporary adjustments are recommended to us by Public Health England.

- Staff and visitors will wear masks in communal areas where social distancing is not possible.
- The school will continue to be well-ventilated.
- The school will once again operate in two bubbles – Key Stage 1 (including Reception class) and Key Stage 2.
- The bubbles will have staggered lunch and break times.
- The drop off and pick up arrangements will be as follows:

	Drop off	Pick up
Oak	Coming into the roadside gate by Oak Class playground between 8:40 – 8:50am and going straight into classrooms.	Leaving from the roadside gate by Oak Class playground at 3:10pm. Please can parents line up on the pathway, keeping a social distance. Children with siblings will be let out first.
Beech	Coming into the roadside gate by Oak Class playground between 8:40 – 8:50am and going straight into classrooms.	Leaving from the roadside gate by Oak Class playground at 3:10pm. Please can parents line up on the pathway, keeping a social distance. Children with siblings will be let out first.
Willow	Coming in through the car park gate between 8:40 – 8:50am and going straight into classrooms.	Pick up at 3:15pm from the car park gate.
Sycamore	Coming in through top car park gate (by Rainbow Room area) between 8:40 – 8:50am and going straight into classrooms.	Pick up at 3:15pm from the top car park gate (by the Rainbow Room area).

- A member of staff will be on the gate to greet the children and they will use hand sanitiser (or wash hands) on entering and before leaving school.
- We will not be having whole school assemblies and instead have these in bubbles. Friday celebration assembly will be held virtually in school.
- All afterschool clubs have been cancelled until 21st February (inclusive). Monday 7th February - Homework Club will go ahead but in bubbles.



Below is information from Department for Education:

Since 14th December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result.

Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:

- fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine
- all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status
- people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine

Children under 5 years who are identified as close contacts are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts. They are advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is in their household.

Pupils with SEND identified as close contacts should be supported by their school and their families to agree the most appropriate route for testing including, where appropriate, additional support to assist swabbing. For further information please read the [COVID guidance for SEND and specialist settings](#).

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19:

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if your child has any of the symptoms listed above, even if the symptoms are mild, stay at home and [arrange to have a test](#). **You do not need to take a PCR test if you have already taken an LFD test and the result was positive.**

The self-isolation period starts immediately from when the symptoms started, or, if no symptoms, from when the positive LFD or PCR test was taken, whichever test was taken first. The self-isolation period includes the day the symptoms started (or the day the test was taken if you do not have symptoms), and the next 10 full days. It may be possible to end self-isolation earlier. An LFD test can be taken from 5 days after the day symptoms started (or the day the first test was taken if no symptoms), and another LFD test on the following day. If both these test results are negative, and your child does not have a high temperature, self-isolation may end after the second negative test result. [Report your LFD test results](#) after taking each test. An LFD test should not be taken before the fifth day of the self-isolation period, and should only end after 2 negative LFD test results, taken on consecutive days.

PCR and LFD tests

If you take an LFD test and the result is positive, you should report the result and follow this guidance. You do not need to take a follow-up PCR test, unless:

- you wish to claim the [Test and Trace Support Payment](#) – to claim the Test and Trace Support Payment, you must have tested positive for COVID-19 following a PCR test or an assisted LFD test
- you have received [an email or letter](#) from the NHS because of a health condition that means you may be suitable for new COVID-19 treatments – if this applies to you and you develop any COVID-19 symptoms, you should use the PCR test kit that was sent to you in the post for this purpose; if you have not received a PCR test kit you can [arrange to have a PCR test](#)
- you are taking LFD tests as part of research or surveillance programmes, and the programme asks you to take a follow-up PCR test
- you have a positive day 2 LFD test result [after you arrive in England](#)

Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 (tested positive or symptomatic awaiting a test result):

Follow separate [guidance if you have had contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 but do not currently live in the same household as them](#).

Anyone who has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 should stay at home and, self-isolate immediately. They should order a PCR test unless they have already taken an LFD test and the result was positive.

If you do not have symptoms of COVID-19 and live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, you are legally required to self-isolate unless you meet any of the following conditions:

- you are fully vaccinated – fully vaccinated means you have had 2 doses of an [approved vaccine](#) such as Pfizer BioNTech, AstraZeneca or Spikevax (formerly Moderna); you are also fully vaccinated if you have had one dose of the single-dose Janssen vaccine

- you are aged under 18 years
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

If you meet any of these 4 conditions (and are therefore not legally required to self-isolate), follow the guidance further down for [contacts who are not legally required to self-isolate](#).

How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19): [guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread](#)

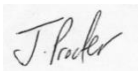
- get vaccinated – everyone aged 18 and over can [book COVID-19 vaccination appointments](#) now. Those aged 16 and 17 will be invited to book an appointment: [Who can get the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\). Those who are aged 12-15 who are themselves clinically extremely vulnerable or live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable or meet JCVI recommendations \(JCVI statement\) are also eligible.](#)
- wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places
- participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over). We encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Procter
Executive Headteacher



Mr A Brundle
Chair of Governors



Mrs K Vile
Head of School