



# Covid Eastlea update

## 22/09/20



I am very aware that things are developing and changing on a daily basis, but this is the latest information from an Eastlea perspective to let you know about what will happen when we do get a positive Covid test outcome. **We haven't had one yet, but thought you may want to know the procedure if we do!**

### Eastlea procedure if/when we get a positive case

1. **If** we do hear that someone from the Eastlea school community (pupil or staff member) has tested positive for Covid, then my first action is to contact the DfE/Public Health Team to seek advice and confirm who the 'close contacts' for this person are and therefore who will need to go home to self-isolate (for up to 14 days). For Eastlea, unless there are unusual circumstances, this is very likely to mean that the CLASS 'bubble' of the person with the positive test will have to self-isolate as a precaution to prevent further infection.

*To try to reduce the number of children/staff who will have to self-isolate, and keep it to just one class bubble, staff have worked very hard over recent days to minimise even further the number of staff who are working across classes, make changes to areas accessed by the children (e.g. toilet 'allocation', use of the 'quiet'/'wet'/'back room' areas etc) so that we avoid the scenario of multiple classes/staff members having to be off school. If your child has mentioned a change in routines or in staffing for a particular lesson or activity this is why!*

2. Parents of the class affected will receive a text message via Parent Mail to ask them to come and pick up their child from school at a specified time. A letter will also be sent home with those children outlining the length of self-isolation period and when they can return to school. **If your child is asked to self-isolate, for the safety and protection of everyone else in the community, it is vital that you follow the guidelines – your child will need to stay in your home/garden and not go out into public areas, not go out to play with other children outside of your home etc. We realise this will be tough, but it will prevent the possibility of the virus spreading, so the rules must be followed.** Siblings, parents and family members do NOT need to self-isolate unless your child themselves develops symptoms.

*If your child is entitled to benefit based Free School Meals then during the period of self-isolation (up to 14 days) packed lunches will be available to collect from school for your child. Those who are eligible will be asked whether they wish to order these lunches and arrangements for collection will be outlined.*

3. Parents of all other children will be informed via text and letter that although we have a positive case identified in Eastlea, that their child has NOT been affected and therefore they can still come to school as normal. This also applies to siblings of those who are asked to self-isolate, who should be in school each day.

### Remote/Home Learning

If your child is required to self-isolate then the staff will be providing work for them to do as we did during the long lockdown period last year. **This work will be made available using Seesaw (Years 1 to 6) or Tapestry (Nursery/Reception).**

The vast majority of parents/carers are using these systems well, but if you still have not sorted out your log on details for either Seesaw or Tapestry it would be best to speak to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. Knowing how to access work and communicate with your child's teacher will be essential to get the best out of the remote learning provided. *Paper based work packs may be made available in some cases for those who have connectivity problems.*

### AND FINALLY...GOOD NEWS...child care change of guidance

I hope everyone is also aware that to ease childcare difficulties, on Monday the north east local restriction guidance was amended to allow formal/informal childcare from family members!

Please continue to take care, follow the guidelines and stay safe!

Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher

