



Eastlea Covid update 15/11/21



Dear Parents / Carers,

Unfortunately, as you may be aware, since Friday we have had some positive COVID cases identified in one class in school. All parents of pupils in this class were contacted over the weekend and were asked to seek a PCR test for their child as a precaution and we had 100% support with this. Only when a negative PCR result is received are children in this class returning to school.

Discussions with a representative from the County Public Health Team this morning were very supportive and the Eastlea response to this 'spike' in cases was described as being 'fantastic'.

The additional measures put in place since half term which you were notified about on 1st November will be continued. These will now be supplemented by extra contingency plans which are set out below:

- Class zones will be reintroduced for all classes at breaks and lunchtimes so the children will play on the yard with those in their own year group only for the time being.
- Class groups will be kept in separate 'bubbles' for all clubs (outdoor as well as indoor).
- Times for lunchtime will be amended so that children from different classes are separated even further while they are in the hall.
- As well as leaving via the main entrance, pupils from Y5 and Y6 will now come in via this door in the mornings, to maintain better distancing from Nursery/Reception pupils and parents.

High levels of ventilation and hand hygiene will obviously be maintained as a top priority and staff have been asked to be alert to any symptoms of illness/Covid and ask parents to seek a test if there are any concerns.

Please continue to be vigilant and if your child shows signs of being unwell, even if it is not with the usual Covid symptoms then consider seeking a PCR test – some positive cases have involved children with tiredness, sore throats, upset stomachs and headaches (not just the common coughs and fever).

If you wish to do regular LFD tests for your child that is fine, but remember that these are not always guaranteed to be accurate (e.g. we had some cases this weekend in which a positive PCR test followed a negative Lateral Flow) so if your child is unwell or you are in doubt then please seek a PCR.

If things settle down again in the following days in terms of the number of cases at Eastlea we hope to be able to relax some of these extra contingency plans in the coming weeks. We will let you know how things progress.

Thank you again for your continued support and if you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact me in school.

Miss E Beeston, Head Teacher