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13 December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I regret to inform you that we have received notification of additional, confirmed cases of Covid-19 in our school community today and also of children that have had a positive LFT result and are awaiting the results of PCR tests. This has meant that we have crossed the government "threshold" for schools of 5 or more pupils or staff that have mixed closely, testing positive for Covid-19 within a 10-day period.

As always, I wish to be as transparent as possible so that you are fully informed and understand why the school continues to take a cautious approach. As of today, there are ten confirmed cases of Covid-19 in our school community across Browne class, Pichon class and Riddell class. An additional three children within these classes are awaiting confirmatory PCR results.

I have spoken to the DfE helpline this afternoon who have advised us to continue to ensure that all hygiene and ventilation measures are carefully followed within school and enhanced cleaning continues to take place daily. We have also been advised to cancel assemblies within school and to close the school to visitors at this time. We have made the decision to cancel the planned Key Stage 2 Christmas service on Friday to prevent unnecessary mixing of children. We will carry out the Reception/KS1 nativity play without a school-based audience so that we can ensure social distancing measures between the classes.

As a further precaution at this time, we will continue to request that if a household member tests positive, the children do not return to school until they have had a PCR test and the result has been returned. Remote learning will be available on Google Classroom/Tapestry for children who are not able to attend school in this way. Staff members will continue to undertake daily lateral flow tests at this time.

We are not required to do anything further at this time. Your child should continue to attend school if they are well. Please be assured that we will continue to monitor the situation very closely to identify any school-based transmission. We will continually review our approach in line with national guidance and also in consideration of circumstances in our school and local area.

As parents and carers you can really help us and our local community by:

• Undertaking regular rapid flow testing (LFT) twice each week in your household. Test kits are available from many local pharmacies or can be ordered online at https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests

- Not allowing your child to come to school if they have any COVID-19 symptoms
- Arranging a PCR test for your child or anyone in your household if they have any COVID-19 symptoms.
- Letting the school office know as soon as possible if your child has COVID-19 symptoms or a positive COVID-19 test
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Thank you all for your continued support. I sincerely hope that by working together to follow these additional measures, we will be able to reduce the number of cases over the week. I will of course update you as soon as possible if there are any changes.

Yours sincerely

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Lynn Torrance Headteacher