

CHOWBENT PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parent/Carer,

over the last week we have seen a significant rise in Covid 19 cases at school. As of today we have 5 members of staff who are currently Covid positive, plus 1 member of staff having to go into self-isolation and 6 pupils who are also Covid positive. We are also aware of 16 other pupils with Covid-like symptoms who are currently awaiting PCR test results.

Although this might sound scary for some, it is important that we keep school as normal as we can and that the children continue to attend if they are well.

Yesterday I was in consultation with Public Health to plan our response to this surge in cases. I thought I would write to you today to let you know our immediate responses in addition to those already in place.

- ❖ We have updated our cleaning regime and given the staff room particular attention.
- ❖ Staff who are not exempt will wear face masks in communal areas and the staff room.
- ❖ We will limit the number of outside visitors or contractors in school to just those essential to running the school. We will therefore be asking volunteers not to help out in school over the next few weeks.
- ❖ Currently a child or staff member in a household with a positive case must return to school/work if their own PCR tests is negative. We now ask that in these cases the child/staff member takes daily Lateral Flow Tests before school for up to 10 days from their contact with the positive case, even where their own PCR test was negative.

Please be aware that,

- we will continue to send out warn and inform letters when a class has a positive case and strongly advise you to get a PCR booked for your child if you receive one.
- we strongly advise parents to maintain social distancing when on the school site and to consider the use of a mask, although we cannot enforce this.
- due to the risk of transmission of having the whole school and staff together in the hall for the planned pantomime next Monday, we have decided to reschedule this event until after the Christmas break.



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE | Silver



- we still hope that the planned live Nativity performances will be able to go ahead, but are keeping an eye on cases closely, we will make a decision next week on whether to go live or just film the show.
- we continue to use CO2 monitors in all classrooms to monitor the quality of the air and to help us keep them ventilated to a good level.

Obviously we wish all those who currently have Covid a speedy recovery and look forward to having them back with us soon.

In the meantime please bear with us during this time. With such a big hit to our staff team there will be disruptions to planned activities and more agency supply staff in school than normal to help us manage during this challenging period. Everyone who does their bit to follow guidelines and keep Covid uppermost in their minds will help us to keep everyone healthy and safe during the upcoming festive period.

Thank you for your cooperation.

J Randle
Headteacher

