



MALCOLM SARGENT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Love To Learn

9 September 2020

Dear Parents

COVID-19 TESTING

I am sure you will have seen, in the press, news of rising Covid-19 cases nationally and locally. Covid-19 is therefore in the community and I am writing to raise your awareness and ask for your help in reducing the chance of potential disruption to our school. It is only a matter of time before we too receive a positive Covid-19 test in our school. In addition to increasing risk to the most vulnerable, it would potentially be very disruptive to the lives of all in our community.

If you or your child is feeling unwell, please do not call the office for advice. Instead, we are advising parents to call NHS-111 to discuss whether a test is required, and/or NHS-119 to book a home or remote test. You should continue to send your child into school unless they specifically have any of the Covid-19 symptoms; a new continuous cough, a high temperature, a loss of, or change in, the normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

The latest guidance for parents from the NHS is at the link below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Please ensure that you follow the guidance carefully and immediately.

At the point at which we are advised that a test is positive, we will notify the Public Health England Team, which will notify us of the action we are to take.

We would request that you do not call the school office to check how many children are poorly, or how many tests have been taken, or what symptoms other children have etc, as we are unable to release that information. In any event, we do not have the staff resources to provide a running commentary on the current situation! Covid-19 is in general circulation and we all need to be vigilant. If there is anything we need to report, it will be advised accordingly.

The Government announced last night that from Monday 14 September, it is illegal to gather in groups of more than six people (other than for specific exempt activities).

Thank you for your help in continuing to keep the community safe and the school open and operational for all by:

- Only attending site if you and your children are symptom-free.
- Limiting those persons dropping off and collecting children to only those strictly necessary (ie no additional adults).

- Leaving site as soon as you have dropped off or collected.
- Maintaining a 2m distance.

We have even noticed a number of parents who have been immediately wiping and sanitising their children's hands upon collection, which is great!

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

T J Revell
Principal