24th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a confirmed small cluster of cases of COVID-19 within the Owl/Art Adventurers bubble at school, with a further two children testing positive over the weekend.There is a total of four children who have tested positive in this bubble. At this time, there are no other positive cases in any other bubbles.

We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. Yet again, they confirmed we are already doing all the right things and just need to remain as vigilant as possible. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your children. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness, and that all our four children are well. In fact, three out of the four had no symptoms at all.

The children and staff who have been in direct prolonged contact with the confirmed cases have already received an individual letter and will be staying at home for 10 days.

The school remains open as normal and your child should continue to attend if they remain well. However, with this new variant, we must ask you to be extra vigilant and err on the side of caution. If you are **at all** concerned about your child, please keep them at home and arrange a PCR test (we are unable to ‘act’ on lateral flow results due to the number of false readings).

**What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community. If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period

**Symptoms**

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

•new continuous cough and/or

•high temperature

•a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

**For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.**

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

**How to stop COVID-19 spreading**

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

*Do*

* wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
* use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
* wash your hands as soon as you get home
* cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
* put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

**Further Information**

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Thank you for all your on-going support and adherence to the guidance. It helps enormously.

As always, please do get in touch if you have any queries or concerns.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Nicki Walker

**Headteacher and Public Health England**