

Barlby Bridge CP School
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Tel – 01757 703650



Acting Headteacher – Mr G Dyer

Acting Deputy Headteacher – Miss J Ellis

10th December 2020

Notifying School of Positive Covid Test

Dear Parents / Carers

As you will be aware, following the announcement on Tuesday by the Education minister Nick Gibb, school staff are required to be available over the first 6 days of the holidays to assist with contact tracing in the event of a positive test from a member of the school community. The headline that school staff will get an extra day holiday actually refers to the fact that this 6 day period will include Christmas Eve itself and therefore closing on the Friday 18th December and having a training day, would relieve the need for staff to potentially conduct contact tracing on this day. After a great deal of consideration we have taken the decision to remain open as usual on Friday 18th in part because we recognise the notice is too short for organising alternative arrangements, at a time of year when families are busy and have extra demands on their time.

Because schools have stayed open for the full duration of the term ahead of Christmas, there is the possibility that you may receive a text from school to notify you of a positive case within your child's bubble and the need to self-isolate. This could happen within the first 6 days of the school holiday, up to and including Christmas Eve itself. We very much hope that this is something that we will not need to do and that all members of the school community end the term free from the virus. You may be planning to spend long awaited time with extended family over the holiday and I appreciate that this uncertainty may cause anxieties around planning as it has for school staff.

I thank you all for your efforts and compliance with school safety systems over this term. Can I urge everyone to remain extra vigilant in this coming week to keep everyone safe and well over the Christmas holiday and restrict the spread of the virus.

Whilst we hope that there will be no need to be notified of any positive cases of Covid-19 during the Christmas break, we must ask should a student test positive the following steps are taken: -

- **For the first 6 days after Friday 18th December, (including weekends)** if a pupil tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, you **MUST** email covid@barlbybridge.n-yorks.sch.uk immediately to notify the school.



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- Where a pupil tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), **having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school**, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Should confirmation of a positive test be received by school during this 6-day period, any close contacts of the positive case will be contacted by text message and advised to self-isolate.

The email address provided will be monitored each morning between Saturday 19th December and Thursday 24th December including weekends. After this time the email address will be closed.

Should you have any queries with regards to the system of covid reporting for this 6 day period, please contact Mrs Dixon by telephone or email who will be happy to answer any questions. Please remember, do not come into school unless you are invited to do so.

I hope that the information provided will not be needed but we must continue to work together as a community to help stop the spread of the virus.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas and new year.

Yours sincerely

Gavin Dyer

G Dyer
Acting Headteacher