



22nd November 2021

Dear Parents,

Autumn Letter 15 - Autumn Term 2021 - 2022

Covid Update 4

Many thanks to all who have taken PCR tests in the last few days. The Local Outbreak Team continue to advise the following:

'If you think your child is a close contact but has not been contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace then they should take a PCR test'

I am keeping you informed of the situation as it develops, enabling you to be able to book and take a PCR test if there is a known case in your child's class. Today's numbers are as follows:

Willow- 8 pupils plus 1 staff member

Rowan- 4 pupils

Hazel- 6 pupils plus 1 staff member

Oak- 5 pupils plus 2 staff members

Ash- 1 pupil

Cedar- 2 pupils plus 1 staff member

Elm- 1 pupil

**Please note these are the reported and confirmed cases*

The following information was also included in the Warn and Inform Letter:

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. If negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). If the child has a positive test result but do not have symptoms, they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) (www.gov.uk) or by calling 119.

It is a recommendation by the LORT team for all adults to wear face-coverings during busy times of the day, so please do so when dropping off your child and when collecting from school.

Bubble Closures

In line with the Government Guidance, schools must remain open for pupils (confirmed today by the LORT). However, if due to staffing levels a class or an area of school cannot operate safely then a bubble may need to close. I have met with governors today and consulted with both the LORT and Executive Officer to look at when this might need to happen. The following criteria will be used to inform our business continuity planning:



- If non-attendance is greater than the amount of pupils in school in any one class
- If the staffing capacity is not sufficient to be able to offer either remote or face to face delivery in any class

Attendance in Willow Class today fell to below 50% today and careful consideration of the situation was made by governors, the staff and myself to ensure we can offer educational provision both remotely and face to face. Due to staff teams' commitment and flexibility, we have narrowly avoided closing the Willow Class bubble.

Please can I once again urge you to take your child for a PCR test if they are a close contact. If we can identify the cases sooner, particularly those pupils who are asymptomatic then we can stop the spread and get back to our usual high levels of attendance.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Dean', with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Mrs Dean
Headteacher