

 @RedHallSchool

 @ RedHallPrimarySchool

Red Hall Primary School, Headingley Crescent  
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Newsletter – 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2020

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Dear Parents/Carers

As we stated on our social media page last night, '***this has not been the end to the half term we hoped for***'. However, we hope that, through this week's experience, you all can see how quickly and efficiently our school and the staff are responding to confirmed cases of Covid-19.

For all of us, this is a very different way of working and we know that this could potentially not be the only time that we have to close down bubbles so we wanted to write to you to just clear up some points;

- If your child's bubble closes and they are requested to self-isolate, the children and staff in that bubble **MUST** follow the government guidance around this for the full 14 days even if they show no symptoms and appear well. This is to stop the spread of the virus, because symptoms can take up to 7 days to show and also because some people can be positive without showing **ANY** symptoms.
- There is no requirement for you to take your child for a Covid test unless they are showing any of these symptoms; a **high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss of sense of taste or smell.**
- If you do take your child for a Covid test and it is negative – your child **STILL** needs to complete the full 14 days of isolation. Again, this is to stop the spread of the virus, because symptoms can take up to 7 days to show.
- If your child does take a Covid test and is positive, we need to see this evidence as soon as possible so that we can take action. Over the next 48 hours, if your child does develop any of the symptoms and tests positive, you **MUST** still inform the school which you can do via our Facebook Messenger page or the school admin address.

- Whether you agree with it or not, we have to follow government guidance, meaning, if one of your children is sent home because their bubble closes, the other siblings in your house **DO NOT** need to isolate and should continue to attend school as normal. We will not authorise you taking your other children home. Bubbles can close at any point, therefore we need your children in school as much as possible.
- If you are struggling to get other siblings to school with friends or family members, please call the school office. The same goes for work packs, if you are struggling to collect these as you have no one to do this for you / look after your children when you come to school, we **WILL** help, however we cannot do anything to support you, if you do not contact the school office and let us know!

### **Keeping our school safe**

Everyone in and around school are following the guidance effectively around Covid-19 and we have regular inspections from Health and Safety to ensure this is the case so we can assure you the school is Covid secure.

Our Health and Safety officer from the Local Authority, was in school on Thursday when we had to close bubbles and has told us we could not have handled the situations more effectively.

We attend weekly briefings with Public Health to ensure we are adhering to all expectations in school and we need to ensure that outside of school families also do the same.

### **Covid Secure Expectations**

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for adhering to the systems we now have in place for dropping off and collecting your children, just a quick reminder of some of our expectations;

- Darlington authority has moved into Tier 2 and all families should be following those expectations; we still hear of children attending sleepovers at other children's houses - please be aware this is against the rules.
- We cannot enforce you wearing a mask for pick up and drop off currently, but we would recommend this option on the yards if you are able to adhere to this now, that Darlington has moved into Tier 2.
- Only **ONE** adult should enter the school premises per family. This means anywhere on the school premises.
- Please arrive **NO EARLIER** than 5 minutes before your child's start and finish time. We are beginning to see more people come on the site earlier than expected and this causes gatherings at gates.
- Please adhere to the 2 metre distancing between you and other adults when you are on the site. Respect everybody's space.
- Do not cross the white lines on the yard. If you need to speak to a teacher urgently – ring up for an appointment. Other messages can be written into children's reading records which are checked by the staff daily.
- Our children and staff undergo a strict handwashing routine throughout the day that is recorded by staff.

- Our school vision is ‘CARING’; this is what we do at Red Hall; we care for each and every one of our children. If your child needs emotional support from adults and asks for or comes for a hug, we will not turn your child away, however, if you would prefer that adults in this school **do not** hug your child in particular, then can you please let the office know and we will share this information with the adults who are in contact with your child.

This is a difficult time for everyone, but we need to all work together and support each other. If you do not understand any of this, please contact us or arrange to speak with a Senior Leader. You know we would prefer you to come in and discuss any concerns than air them inappropriately through Social Media sites.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back within the first week after half term.

We will see all Y5/6 children on Monday, Y3/4 children on Tuesday and Early Years/Y1 and Y2 on Thursday. Teachers should be contacting the children not in school in those first days back.

Best wishes

Ms Davidson and Miss Snowdon

