



INSPIRE NURTURE BELIEVE ACHIEVE

*Working **together** to be the **best** that we can be.*

Happiness

Perserverance

Resilience

Kindness

Friendship

Respect

22.6.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Update from Public Health following a positive case at Sicklinghall – for your information only

After numerous discussions with Public Health today, they have reported that they are noticing a pattern in Covid Symptoms across the county amongst children and some have since tested positive.

In the last two weeks, the spread of Covid amongst children has seen a noticeable increase and many schools have had positive cases.

Summer colds and Hay fever, or general bugs may be masking symptoms of Covid (sneezing, mild (or persistent) coughs, headaches, sore throat, diarrhoea). Some children are not showing these symptoms at all, and others are not showing these symptoms for very long e.g. one evening, but they then seem fine the next day.

If you feel that you wish to do a Lateral Flow Test on your child, and this is subsequently positive, book a PCR test immediately and inform school of the result as soon as you have it.

Operational Matters:

While we knew that it would be beneficial for the children to mix more widely to prepare for transition to their new classes and for their wellbeing, the reason we decided to run as one school bubble is due to the complex nature of staffing a school when members of staff are absent.

In recent weeks, we have had to use staff from other bubbles to cover an absence and equally, members of staff move between schools to cover illnesses or as a member of the Senior Leadership Team when necessary.

Information regarding Year 6 Arrangements:

When considering the Year 6 arrangements, we were very cautious about confirming any dates and telling the children. With restrictions starting to lift, we responded to parent requests to finalise some activities.

However, Public Health have advised that with the rate that the variant is spreading amongst children, we should be trying to limit mixing as much as possible unless necessary for staffing ratios at lunch and playtime, to provide sufficient breaks as part of the Health and Safety expectations or to cover a class / deliver curriculum content.

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Therefore, with regret, we have made the decision to cancel the following planned Y6 activities:

- Yeadon Tarn
- Drumming
- Bikeability

We are in the process of trying to re-arrange the Relationship, Sex and Health Education Transition Lesson.

The New Reception Transition meetings can go ahead due to the low numbers of 'new families'.

We feel that although this is hugely disappointing, it is the best decision and hopefully ensure that the Year 6 children are able to attend the transition meetings at their chosen High School and also be IN school for the remainder of the term. Some children are attending summer school – if they have to isolate for 10 days at the end of term this will have a detrimental impact and possibly prevent them from attending.

We haven't had a single outbreak since March 2020 until today at Sicklinghall. However, with people mixing more widely outside of school within the rules, and with the pace that the new variant is spreading, please continue to be vigilant when spotting symptoms, alerting school of the day and time they started.

If you require any support, please call 111 for advice.

Many thanks for your patience and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Zoe Pickard
Headteacher