

Palmers Cross News



AUTUMN TERM 2020

Monday 14th September

PALMERS CROSS
Primary School

Latest COVID-19 guidance

As parents will be aware, on Friday morning last week, school were notified of a positive case in our Year 2 (Class 2) bubble.

School acted in accordance with Public Health England (PHE) by informing parents as soon as this confirmation was received.

Following advice from Public Health England the following measures have been taken:

- * As a precaution, all Class 2 children are to self-isolate for 14 days—guidance on this can be found on the gov.uk website
- * Staff within Class 2 are to self-isolate for 14 days
- * No other year groups are affected

As a result, children from Class 2 will remain at home until we re-open the class on Thursday 24th September. During this two week period, children from Class 2 will receive a package of home learning via email—Miss Hancock will have been in contact over the last few days with information about this. If you haven't already done so, please can families ensure email addresses are with the office, as this will enable work to be sent.

Can my child's siblings attend school?

Advice from Public Health England is that siblings at school are still able to attend as usual and other family members, living in the household, are not affected by the requirement to self-isolate, as they have not been in direct contact with the individual who has tested positive.

Our bubble approach, as outlined in our risk assessment, means that a positive test in the Year 2 class does not have any additional implications for other year groups. Therefore, attendance at school is mandatory for all other year groups and any absence will be marked as unauthorised. As stated in DFE guidance:

'Time out of school is detrimental for children's cognitive and academic development...this impact can affect both current levels of learning and children's future ability to learn therefore we need to ensure that all pupils are in school...Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind.'

What if my child develops symptoms?

As stated in NHS guidance, below are the three main symptoms that may indicate that your child, or a member of your household has coronavirus. The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

In line with government guidance, school will ask you to do the following:

- ◆ Inform school immediately if your child is absent with suspected symptoms
- ◆ To self-isolate for 10 days from date of onset of symptoms (or until they receive a negative result)
- ◆ To take a coronavirus test
- ◆ That members of their household should self-isolate for 14 days (or until the symptomatic household member receives a negative result)

If your child develops symptoms whilst at school, you will be contacted and asked to collect your child immediately.

What if a child or staff member tests positive?

It is vital that coronavirus test results are communicated with school as soon as they are received using the school email address: palmerscrossprimaryschool.wolverhampton.co.uk or via telephone (01902 558322) if a test result is received during school hours.

We kindly ask that families do not email school with queries about whether a positive test has occurred or the details following this, as parents will be notified as soon as we are aware of this. Speculation or advertising such news over social media website is not helpful.

Changes to timetabled sessions:

We have reviewed our current COVID-19 preventative measures and have made the decision that we are unable to start the **Nursery 'Stay and Play'** sessions over the next few weeks. We do apologise for any inconvenience that this may have caused. We will aim to reopen these Nursery sessions on Monday 28th September and information regarding these will be sent out in due course. Nursery staff are busy preparing individual learning packs for our Nursery children, which will be distributed over the next few days.

Thank you!

We send our heartfelt thanks to all families who are cooperating with us and following our systems for safe working practice at Palmers Cross. Having our first positive case of COVID-19 has been challenging for our whole school community including parents, children and staff.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as families demonstrated last Friday and we kindly ask this for the foreseeable future, as we adjust to returning to school during these unprecedented times. The safety of our children, staff and families underpin all of our current procedures which have been fully approved by Public Health England.

Mrs Wood—Head of School.