



WyreForestSchool



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Communication Specialist

14th January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

As you know, unfortunately, we have positive cases of COVID-19 in pupils that have attended school since Christmas, staff and many families. We also have associated self-isolation where pupils and staff have been in contact with positive cases. This obviously continues to have a knock-on to our safe staffing levels and we have had to close a bubble.



As I put in my text earlier in the week, one of the children who has tested positive did not have the classic symptoms, rather a change in behaviour that the mother noticed. The child has now presented with small white spots and unfortunately several members of the family also now have COVID-19. For those families where COVID-19 has made family members really poorly, including a few who unfortunately are in ICU and on ventilators, we send you all our love and positive thoughts. If there is anything we can do please do not hesitate to contact us.

We rolled out the lateral flow testing to staff this week, but we do so cautiously as the accuracy of the test is not that high. Therefore, we are still urging anyone with symptoms to get a PCR test and self-isolate until a result is known.

Due to the fluid nature of the current staffing in school, pupils are not in their normal classrooms, with their normal peer group or with their normal staff. As the vast majority of parents have requested to keep their children safe at home, we also need staff to deliver home learning, keep in contact and carry out visits. Please do not worry about the home learning, the guidance for special schools clearly states it is down to the schools as they know the children best, and I would say it is down to the parents as not only do you know your children the best, but a lot of you are juggling many children at the same time. At this time, we can only try our best. If you would prefer the learning in a different way, please just talk to the class teacher, and if there are any resources you need just ask.

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You have probably seen on the news the terrible food hampers that families have been receiving. I made a decision that school would sort out Free School Meal Vouchers as the hampers are not appropriate for many of our children, especially with the wide variety of dietary needs. Lyn Cole worked hard to sort this out and now the government has started the vouchers again – hopefully the transition between the two will be smooth.

We are looking to run a holiday club over February half term for three days, but this will have to be much smaller than usual to enable us to ensure we have safe staffing levels. We also will not be able to go off site as the lockdown continues. Lotte will be getting information out to parents about this very soon.

We have no further information or news to share with you at this time but if there is anything we can help you with or anything you would like to know, please either ring school between 9am and 3pm or email office@wfs.worcs.sch.uk and someone will get back to you as soon as they can.

On a happy note, we welcome Rachel Wright back from maternity leave and Fen Prior-Smith has given birth to beautiful twins. They are all doing really well.

Please stay safe and continue to follow lockdown rules so we can get back to a normal life as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support, it really is appreciated.

Bec Garratt
Headteacher

