



Highwood Primary School,  
Fairwater Drive,  
Woodley,  
READING,  
Berkshire.  
RG5 3JE

Head Teacher: Mr M Hickey BA(Ed), PE QTS  
13/01/2022

Dear Parents / Guardians,

I am going to revert back to daily updates, so that parents have the full picture of positive cases and overall absence across the school. Currently, we have two classes that we are putting in additional safety measures – parents of children in those classes have received the following information:

*When a class reaches 10% positive cases in a close contact group (this would be a class group), we will be implementing the following risk assessment:*

1. Parents are **strongly encouraged to engage with daily lateral flow testing for 7 days** (ideally in the morning before coming into school). This will support the school in managing the outbreak and limit any further transmission.
2. The school will take measures, where possible, to separate the class from the rest of the school. This will mean that children will:
  - a. Eat their lunch in their classroom
  - b. Access their own toilet areas
  - c. Play in a space away from other children or at an alternative time
3. If you children have any symptoms, then please do not send them to school until a negative PCR has been confirmed.

*The guidance has changed from last term and we will not be asking for all children to seek a PCR test, if they do not have symptoms. I would really appreciate parents being vigilant and to actively engage with the daily testing, so that we can continue to have children access face to face learning.*

The daily testing regime for classes above threshold is going to be vital, so that the transmission can be contained and we are able to keep staffing numbers high. If staffing absences continue to increase, we may need to utilise our remote learning offer and children accessing learning from home. This would be an absolute last resort, but it is important for parents to know that it is a possibility.

The full figures across the school today are:

Highwood Positive Cases Monitoring						
	Seeking PCR Tests Due to symptoms	Positive LFT	Positive PCR	Usual class total	Number of children not in school today 13/01/22	Staff absence due to Covid or other absence
F1		1	1	49	4	1
F2H			1	30	2	2
F2P			1	30	2	
1G	1	1		30	4	1
1H				32	4	0
2A				29	3	0
2B		2	1	28	3	2
3B		2	1	29	5	1
3RH				33	1	0
4A	1			30	5	2
4B				32	0	0
5M				31	2	0
5R				30	0	0
6R				30	1	0
6B				30	2	0
Total	2	6	5	473	38	9

In future days, I will simply send out the table above. The numbers will obviously fluctuate as when a child / adult has completed their isolation period, they will be removed for the active caseload.

I hope this will be useful information and will encourage families to be vigilant with symptoms and testing particularly if there are positive cases in your child's class.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Hickey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matt Hickey  
Headteacher  
Highwood Primary School