



6th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

COVID 19 – Staffing Update

We are writing to update you that we have a member of the Key Stage 2 Team, Mr Whitty, who from today is self-isolating. Mr Whitty's partner, while not demonstrating any typical COVID-style symptoms, was tested today as an NHS employee and received a positive result.

Mr Whitty is not demonstrating any symptoms of being unwell but will today have a test – we expect to be able to update you around this on Monday.

We continue to follow the Local Authority, Public Health England and Government protocols and specific advice. This suggests that there are no further measures that we need to take with children or staff at this time. We will of course keep you informed if this situation changes.

We are grateful to Mr Whitty and his family for their diligence in sharing information in a way that has enabled us to make you aware of the position swiftly. Our thoughts are with them as they manage the situation and we know that you will join us in wishing them the very best. We look forward to seeing Mr Whitty again in 14 days.

Given the unusual and uncertain situation that we face this morning, any absence of children in the Year 3/4 bubble today will be marked as authorised. During the course of the morning the School's Coronavirus 'Splash Page' will be placed on our website, www.haytorview.devon.sch.uk, and Mr Whitty will share a menu of learning activities for your child to engage with today should you choose to keep them at home. We are anticipating a swift result for Mr Whitty's test and would hope to communicate this with you ahead of school starting on Monday by letter through School Gateway. At this time we hope to be able to reassure you as to Mr Whitty's position, or alternatively share with you plans for the bubble moving forwards.

Your support in maintaining our school as a healthy environment since September has been very welcome. In keeping children with any viral symptoms at home so that we are not seeing viruses of any sort move through the school, we have actually seen attendance levels higher than we might normally have seen in the first half of the Autumn Term. **We would encourage you to continue to adopt a policy of keeping children with any, even non-COVID, viral symptoms at home until these pass. This enables everyone to feel safe and comfortable in the school setting – it also allows any symptoms that do develop to be seen quickly and easily.**

We welcome contact with any parents who have concerns about decisions being made around their children's health. Please feel free to get in touch should this be helpful, by phone, email or through School Gateway.

Yours sincerely,

Katy Galling
Head of Learning and Development

Niema Bohrayba
Chair of Governing Board