



19th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Foundation Stage – Good News and Next Steps!

The big news is that we are pleased to say that Miss Loffthouse has today received a negative result on her formal COVID test and continues to show no symptoms of the virus.

This is obviously a significant relief to us all, and it seems like a good time to say thank-you for the support and understanding that you have shown during the last two days.

What next?

Having taken advice from the Devon County Council Public Health Specialist, we are pleased to be able to tell you that the Foundation Stage will be **open as normal from Monday** and we will all look forward to seeing you.

Miss Loffthouse will be joining the rest of the Foundation Stage team as normal on Monday.

Children from the Foundation Stage no longer need to self-isolate as a result of events of the last 2 days.

How do I know that the Foundation Stage is safe?

Be assured that we continue to manage all our activities within the terms of our risk assessment for the running of the school, which fits with guidance provided by Central Government and the Local Authority in Devon.

With your help, this far we are fortunate to have a good track record in relation to preventing the virus emerging in school – though events of recent days remind us all how easy it is for this picture to change.

Staff members continue to take part in voluntary lateral flow testing at home which can provide an early warning where individuals without symptoms may have the virus.

Will this happen again?

Sadly we cannot say for sure that we will not be faced with a similar situation in any of our bubbles (Foundation Stage; Year 1 & 2; Year 3 & 4; Year 5 & 6) in the future, as any positive lateral flow test taken by staff will see us needing to take such action in the future.

We will however continue to be careful and considered about our operations and would ask everyone, when on the school site to follow the guidance below to maintain everyone's comfort and safety.

With this in mind it seems an appropriate time to remind you that while we ask for the following guidelines to be followed the wearing of face masks on site is not compulsory. You may of course choose to wear a mask if this allows you to feel more comfortable in the presence of others.

At all times.....

- Keep children close to you when on the school site
- Use the 'in' and 'out' lanes on the driveway to support social distancing
 - Keep moving when entering/leaving the school site
- Arrive as close to 3.15pm as possible to prevent crowding on/around the school site

So...a positive end to the week. Thank-you once again for the support and care that you have demonstrated towards the school team and the school community at large. We look forward to seeing everyone back together on Monday!

Yours sincerely,

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