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## 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

As you will be aware we have had a rise of positive cases within our school and community too which is not what we had hoped or expected.

We continue to liaise with the Local Authority and Public Health on a case by case basis as I have a duty to ensure that everyone in our school community remains safe. Current risk assessments remain in place to ensure that our school and all here remain safe and you can read this [here](#).

- Children remain in their bubbles and stringent hand hygiene procedures are in place (sanitising and hand washing) and we would ask families to do this at home too.
- We would also ask that families remain in their family/care bubbles, outside of the school day, to minimise the spread of the virus and continue to keep our community safe.
- Parents are also asked not to congregate at the gates and to mindful of social distancing recommendations. This is at the gate and on the playground when children are dismissed.

The new strain of the virus is becoming more dominant in children and symptoms have included: headaches, sickness and sore throats too. We would advise parents if a child has this or any of the previous symptoms identified <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/> This is to keep everyone in our school community safe.

**Please remember that the test taken will have to be a PCR test and not a Lateral Flow Test.**

Once a negative PCR result is sent to the school email/mobile (this includes receiving a result over the weekend) then the child can return to school. The expectation would be the same for any child sent home from school with symptoms- they would have to have a negative PCR test sent to school before they can return.

If your family or child's class have to isolate this will be a period of 10 days or you will be given a date by Track and Trace when this period ends. Siblings of those families isolating will asked to attend school as usual unless they have been identified as a close contact by Track and Trace.

We have had to cancel our Breakfast and After School Club for all in line with guidance received. We may not be in a position to offer these services until the end of the academic year if cases continue to rise. This will be reviewed on a weekly basis in line with: numbers of cases in the community, guidance from Public Health and Local Authority, staffing and spaces to safely accommodate those attending. I apologise for any convenience caused but we find ourselves in very difficult and unprecedented times once again.

Thank you for your continued support.

Bernadette

## Contacting School

Any general enquiries, complaints and concerns should be directed to the school office. If you are sharing these by email, they must be sent to [enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk) (this includes covid test results for children and family members)

Some parents are still using [send@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:send@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk) which is for SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) enquiries only. All general queries sent here will be forwarded to the school office for their attention.

Tapestry is used to communicate and comment about school work. Please see below for more information.

## Tapestry

You or your child can also message your teachers. With regards to messaging, we would like to clarify how this can be used:

### DO

- Do message if you want to share something positive from home
- Do message if you have a small query or would like to find out something simple
- Do message if your child has any minor worries, for example: *'Jack didn't quite understand fractions today, could you please point me in the direction of where I can get some further practise work for him'*

### DON'T

- Please do not use Tapestry app to raise an issue, please contact the school office in the usual way: [enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk)
- Please do not message via Tapestry to notify school of absences or illnesses - this should be done via the school office as normal
- Please do not use Tapestry to message about any urgent or serious issues; please use the school office and normal school procedures for this. Remember in most cases your child's class teacher will have responsibility for the whole class while your child is isolating so will only be able to access the app before or after the school teaching day.

### REMEMBER

Teachers will always endeavour to reply as quickly as possible. However, please bear in mind that school life can be incredibly busy and whilst every effort will be made to reply or acknowledge messages, there could be a slight delay on occasion. Additionally, please do not expect a reply to any messages sent after 4pm or on a weekend as teachers will not be able to reply.

**It is extremely important that ALL parents/carers use Tapestry as any families isolating will need to access home learning in the event that families or whole classes need to isolate.**

If you are having any trouble accessing Tapestry, please let us know as soon as possible.

**If you need access to a school laptop, stationery or any additional resources to support with home learning please do not hesitate to get in touch with teachers via Tapestry or the school office.**