

Re: Covid 19 update

Dear Parents and carers,

'But God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.' (1 Corinthians 12 24 – 26)

I hope that you are all having a lovely weekend. I am writing to update you on the current measures that we have in place to reduce the spread of Covid 19 and to ask all families to support us with these. We are monitoring the positive cases closely and working closely with the local authority and local public health team to manage our response. Due to the ongoing high numbers of positive cases of Covid-19 across our school community, we are continuing to maintain the protective measures that we have previously implemented and have proactively introduced further measures throughout last week. Please be mindful that all of these measures significantly increase the workload of all members of our staff team who continue to show a deep and visible commitment to our school's vision; *Flourishing Together to Serve*. We continue to do all we can to prioritise learning and provide stability for the children.

As always, in the event of staff absence we aim to minimise any disruption to children's learning as much as possible. We continue to have some staff members who are absent from school. This means that available staff are currently covering other roles as we work together to manage the workload of our absent colleagues. We will use all available staff to cover classes and will consider implementing changes to timetables or rearranging events when necessary. We will continue to maintain our clear focus on meeting the children's needs at the heart of our decision making and will continue to find creative solutions to the challenges we face.

Please ensure that you are familiar with the symptoms of Covid-19 and the action that you should take if your child develops these symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19. Details can be found on our school website in the Covid 19 section <https://www.moseleyce.bham.sch.uk/page/covid-19/>. Please ensure that you notify school immediately either by calling the school office (0121 449 0441) or by emailing enquiry@moseleyce.bham.sch.uk so that we can take the appropriate action.

Please ensure that anyone who has tested positive or has symptoms of Covid-19 does not come onto the school site. We understand that this might pose a challenge with the school run for families who have children in school who have not tested positive. If you are unable to arrange alternative arrangements to bring children to school, please contact the school office who will be able to offer advice on ways we might be able to support you. (enquiry@moseleyce.bham.sch.uk or 0121 449 0441)

When informing school that your child has tested positive, please let office staff know if they are too unwell to complete remote learning or if you are worried that your child will not be able to complete remote learning for any other reason. Details of our approach to remote learning for children who are isolating due to Covid-19 can be found in our remote learning plan on our school website. Please note that children who are unwell are not required to complete remote learning. The class teacher will plan your child's remote learning as soon as reasonably practicable. They will make contact with parents to discuss arrangements with you

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regarding your child's remote learning. Please note; if the class teacher is unwell, another member of staff will assume this role as soon as it is reasonably practicable to do so.

Please use the enquiry email address for all communication with school staff so that we can ensure that your message is sent to the most appropriate, available member of staff. This ensures that all messages are received even if staff are absent from school. Staff absence will affect our response times as we continue to work hard to ensure that the learning needs of the children are prioritised and we maintain the safe and effective day to day running of our school.

Please ensure that your child is wearing their school jumper or cardigan and long trousers or skirt and tights as it is a little colder than normal in school. We continue to maintain ventilation in classrooms, corridors and communal areas with all windows and doors open.

Please ensure that children only bring the necessary equipment into school with them as surplus stationery and personal items pose an additional risk and inhibit cleaning of desks. We continue to maintain our cleaning routines across the school. We are proactive in implementing deep cleaning in classrooms and other affected areas when we have an increased numbers of cases.

We also continue to encourage visitors, including parents and carers, to wear face coverings whilst on the school site. Whilst face coverings will not be legally required in any setting from 27.1.22, staff will continue to wear face coverings in communal areas in school whilst they feel this measure is necessary. We will continue to ask essential visitors who need to attend the school site to undertake lateral flow tests and to wear face-coverings in communal areas.

We have implemented additional changes to lunch times, to further reduce instances of classes coming into contact with each other. We are now using classrooms as additional lunch spaces when these needed. This is a fluid measure and is implemented for the shortest time possible when it is needed. We continue to maintain zones on the playground and have split play times and transition times to manage the movement of classes around the school.

Collective Worship remains at the heart of our school. Despite us not being physically together, it provides a much needed sense of togetherness, community, reflection and hope. Although we are currently not coming together for whole school, in-person Collective Worship, we continue to worship together daily; including virtually whole school worship 3 times per week and class-based worship twice per week

In accordance with guidance from the local authority and local public health team, due to our high numbers of positive cases, we are unable to participate in educational visits at present. Unfortunately this means that we have had to cancel the trips to places of worship that we had planned for this week. This also means that we now need to plan a virtual Y1 Candlemas service instead of our planned whole school service at the church.

Thank you all for your ongoing support, prayers and community spirit. These mean a great deal to us and are a real strength of our fabulous school community. I look forwards to seeing you all tomorrow.

Warmest wishes,

Dawn Gallagher
Headteacher

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