



Moorside Community Primary Academy

01695 722931 / 07927 771710
www.moorside-academy.co.uk



'Lighting the Flame of Learning'

Monday 29th November 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your families are all well. I am writing in response to the announcement made by the Prime Minister last night. Please take this as an initial response, things may change, if and when more information is given to schools. In terms of everyday school life, we have a risk assessment which we have followed this term, which has worked really well so far. We have plans in place should we have single cases, multiple cases and many cases within one or more classes. Staff have all been informed this afternoon of some additional temporary measures, including face coverings, increasing distancing and minimising group sizes where possible. I have every faith that the staff will continue to do an amazing job, as they have throughout.

We have three weeks left in school in the lead up to Christmas, which is always full of fun, but lots of hard work too. Please see below some new guidance for parents to follow, in order to support our school family in the best way possible:

- Please ensure that you follow social distancing protocol when dropping off or collecting your child, spacing out during your journey to and from school, and when waiting in the playground. Please leave the grounds as soon as possible. You may wish to wear a face covering, but at the moment this is not mandatory.
- Face coverings must be worn if coming to the front desk, or during any kind of meeting or appointment with school staff, unless you are exempt.
- We are still very much hoping that our Nativity performances will go ahead as we have planned. However, in order for these to happen, a face covering must be worn at all times adults are in school and throughout the performance. Gov.uk have also advised that visitors 'should take a rapid lateral flow test if you're going to be coming into contact with people you don't normally meet. You can order tests [online](#) or visit a pharmacy.' ALL infant children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) will be required in school until 4:15 on Monday 6th, Wednesday 8th AND Thursday 9th unless you DO NOT want your child(ren) to take part in the Nativities. ALL children will receive 2 tickets to watch their child perform. Reception parents will watch the show on Monday, Year 1 parents on Wednesday and Year 2 on Thursday.
- Please continue to take your child for a PCR test should they display any of the following symptoms

-a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

-a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

-a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

- As always please keep children at home if there are unwell with any other illness.
- It has been stated that anyone who has been a close contact of anyone testing positive for the Omicron variant of Covid will need to isolate for 10 days. For us, we will be managing close contacts how the guidance instructs us to do so but, as yet, the guidance has not been offered to us. I will be in touch as soon as I know more. If your child has already had Covid, I am not sure what the regulations are likely to be, but this should be made clearer soon. We will need to revert to home learning in any instance of isolation.

Unfortunately, the Christmas Bingo and the Christmas Fair have had to be **CANCELLED** as we aim to restrict the number of visitors into school. These decisions have not been made lightly and every decision we make is to do all we can to keep all in our school community as safe as possible. The Friends of Moorside will be in touch to detail how to get hold of Christmas gifts from them

I will be in touch later in the week about plans for the Santa Trail as well as when further guidance is issued to us by the Government.

All of this guidance is in place from now on. I am sure you will all understand and appreciate the reasons behind these initial decisions. The situation over the last few days seems to have escalated, so the picture may look very different as the week progresses. Should it be necessary, we may need to put additional measures in place. Hopefully, if we can all follow this guidance, we will be in the best place to enjoy the last few weeks in school, keeping everyone safe and well in order to enjoy a happy Christmas.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you need anything at all.

Thanks so much for your support as always.

Stay safe.

Yours sincerely.

Mr. Davis.
Headteacher.