



Monday 17 January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

I thought it would be useful to provide you with a Covid update as specifically related to Greenway.

During last week and over the weekend our COVID positive cases have increased so that we are now in a situation where we have what is termed an 'outbreak'. An outbreak is defined as '**5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test(ing) positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period**'. There are currently two 'outbreaks' - one in Reception and the second in Year 6. There are also some positive cases in some other classes.

Following Government and Local Authority guidance we continue to update our outbreak/contingency plan on a regular basis. We have put in place some extra protective measures for Reception and Year 6 classes, as well as revised some whole school procedures.

Reception and Year 6 parents were contacted over the weekend, so they are already aware of the rising positive cases in their classes, and they have been asked to ensure that all children carry out Lateral Flow Tests each day for this week and to let us know if these are positive. Miss Bassil and Mrs Coleman (our Reception staff) also tested positive over the weekend and are self isolating. Mrs Harris taught the class today and I am in the process of arranging staffing for the rest of the week. I do understand that the changes in staffing may unsettle some children but trust that you will support them appropriately at home with this.

Reception and Year 6 classes have now been put into bubbles, and we are reducing their mixing with other classes both indoors and outdoors. Year 6 are eating their dinner in their classroom and they have a designated area for play and lunchtime. Reception are continuing to eat their dinner in the dining room (they are first into the dining room, so it is empty of other classes whilst they are eating) and they have their own designated early years outdoor play area.

Our aim is to reduce these two classes mixing with other year groups and hopefully reduce the number of cases. We appreciate that this is difficult outside of school as some of the children will have siblings in other year groups who they will inevitably see but I would ask that you use caution and ensure that good hygiene practises are maintained at home.

We have had to cancel some sporting fixtures for Year 6 so that we are not mixing with other primary schools. I know that this is disappointing but I am sure you can understand why we have taken this action.

Please may I ask you to be extra vigilant with regards your child/ren feeling poorly.

DfE updated guidance states:

*From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.*

*The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).*

*If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.*

*Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.*

Please may I ask parents/carers to email school as soon as a positive LFD or PCR is received, so that we can maintain an up to date picture across the school.

We wish those who are unwell a speedy recovery and do hope that with the extra measures put in place the spread of COVID will slow at Greenway.

Regards

**Katharine Ellwood**  
**Headteacher**