



Mesne Lea Primary School

Working together for individual excellence

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25th March 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Although the children are all now back in school it is still crucial that we all follow the guidelines that have been put in place both by school and Government. The safety of the staff, children and our community is our most important consideration at this time. We must work together to lower transition rates of this virus, especially as we have new variants developing. We are all tired of the restrictions, but we must:

- Keep up with the social distancing and avoid gathering on the playground at home time. We know it is tempting to stand and catch up with other parents, but please, collect children and vacate the playground.
- You should not meet other people you do not live with unless for a permitted reason as defined in the guidance. It has come to our attention that some children have been having sleepovers at each other's houses. This is not only against the guidelines but also puts others at risk. The more crossings of bubbles outside school that takes place, the greater the chance that several bubbles may have to close. No-one wants this. This means that questions have to be asked, as it is our responsibility to try to find out who children who develop symptoms have been in contact with. Those questions have today been answered with some defensiveness and even aggression, which makes a bad situation even harder. We ask for your continued support in dealing with these matters.
- Keep your child off school if they display the following symptoms: coughing, high temperature, loss of taste or smell and a sore throat. From our experience of positive cases in school, nearly all of them have started with a sore throat, which has then developed into some of the other symptoms. Secondary symptoms include: vomiting/nausea/off your food, diarrhoea, sleeping more than usual/extreme tiredness, listless/restless/agitated, shortness of breath, feeling cold, headache, severe body aches, sore throat, congested or runny nose, skin rash, complaining of anything that is not feeling themselves
- If your child displays any of the primary or secondary symptoms, we will ask you to take your child for a PCR test. We will ask for proof of the results before your child is able to return to school.

We are all in an impossible situation that we must deal with as best we can. For most of us, catching the virus would result in a minor illness albeit one that we would not like to repeat. However, as many of us know, it is not us who are most at risk. Parents, grandparents and the clinically vulnerable are the ones who will be affected. Several of our school community have lost loved ones and children have had grandparents or family members taken too soon. Let us all abide by the rules so that we can be back together with those that matter most to us as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A Nelson

EM Haworth

Ms A. Nelson

Mrs E. Haworth

Headteacher

Chair of Governors

