



Alsager Highfields Community Primary School

Mighty oaks from small acorns grow

Fairview Avenue
Alsager
Stoke-on-Trent
ST7 2NW

Tel: 01270 882472

admin@alsagerhighfields.cheshire.sch.uk

www.alsagerhighfields.com

Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Woollam



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are all aware, the current local picture of Covid-19 infections is rapidly escalating, particularly in children of Secondary school age. This in turn is now beginning to impact on younger siblings and therefore primary schools. Up until two weeks ago, we had been fortunate in that we had not had cases of Covid in our school. That has now changed.

The situation in Alsager and Cheshire East at present is a concern as the case rate is 800 per 100,000 which is significantly higher than the national of 259 per 100,000. Cheshire East are therefore advising schools to implement additional measures until cases start to reduce, this situation will be reviewed regularly and adjusted accordingly.

The advice given out to schools by Cheshire East on Wednesday, was followed up on Friday afternoon with clearer information for both schools and families dealing with cases of infection.

On the advice of Cheshire East: **if there is a positive case in your household, your child will be asked to isolate for 5 days and also to have a negative PCR test prior to their return**, this is to reduce the risk of spreading the virus amongst the school population. **If they start to show symptoms they must get a PCR test. Evidence of a negative PCR will be required via email prior to their return to school.**

Even though children with Covid often present differently to adults, the official symptoms remain the same:

- High temperature
- Persistent cough
- Loss of taste or smell

As we know, many children also have no symptoms at all and the best way to identify asymptomatic cases is to do regular lateral flow tests.

Since the outbreak of cases in school we have changed protocols in school and increased regular handwashing and sanitising, the cleaning of touch points, ventilation and returned to remote assemblies. Children will be kept in their class bubbles as much as possible and any mixing of year groups will be kept to a minimum indoors.

The term has continued to be disrupted by Covid for many children and families and once again we find ourselves having to change protocols and routines at short notice in order to respond to the ever-changing situation. Schools are regularly advised by the Local Authority, and we will follow all guidance set out by Cheshire East in order to minimise the spread of infection and to best protect our school community.

Thank you for your on-going support, understanding and patience in these testing times, it really is appreciated.

Rachel Woollam