



Dear Parent/Carer

REGULAR UPDATE

Everything is going well in school and children have adapted quickly to our restart arrangements. As you know it is our aim to keep things as normal as possible for them. We also want to keep you up to date on a regular basis so you are informed of any possible scenarios that may come up.

You may be aware that other schools have had to deal with members of the school community testing positive for the virus. This is something we may have to deal with and we want you to be aware of the possible steps that may be implemented if this happens.

1. If a child presents with symptoms in school, you will be contacted immediately to collect your child and any siblings. You must ring PHA and comply with their guidance for testing and keep the school informed.
2. If a child or adult has a positive test result for the virus, we are legally bound to report this to the Public Health Agency. As COVID-19 is a reportable disease it is unlawful for us not to do so.
3. Following advice and guidance from PHA we may have to direct a class to isolate at home for a period of 2 weeks - if this happens we will inform you as soon as we receive guidance and provide online learning.
4. Even at this early stage of the year there are significant numbers of children who are absent from school for a number of days. We are working on a Blended Learning Policy which will set out our commitment to support pupils during short term/long term absence. If the numbers continue to rise school may need to close school early on a Wednesday to allow teaching staff to prepare and provide online learning.

Finally, your child's attendance is very important but at the moment it is much more important to be cautious in relation to sickness. We need to work together to protect all members of our school community, from the youngest child to our cherished grandparents.

If your child is unwell, please refer to the parents' guide we sent you. Keep your children at home and take advice before lifting the phone. We are not medical professionals and are not able to give any more than general advice.

Mrs Watson and the Phoenix Team