



**Hunningley Primary School**

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Hunningley Primary School  
Hunningley Lane  
Stairfoot  
Barnsley  
South Yorkshire  
S70 3DT  
Telephone: 01226 284867

Dear Parents / Carers,

### **Covid-19 Update**

I am writing to thank all families for the way that everyone is following the guidance on social distancing and ensuring that we are all able to make the most of the school day within the constraints of what we are able safely to do.

Of course, Covid-19 is still widespread across the country and, when individual cases do occur within the school community, we will not hesitate to take the advice of Public Health England (PHE) and adopt any additional steps they ask us to take. Over the summer, as you will know, we put in place a raft of measures to ensure effective social distancing and hygiene in order to minimise any impact of the virus within school.

At present, we have just been notified about one member of our school community who has tested positive for Covid-19. They are within our Year 1T Class bubble and are now self-isolating at home. There is no suggestion that this was caused in school, but it does reflect a rise in community cases locally and around the country.

As soon as we became aware of this, we contacted Public Health England (PHE) for it's advice and guidance. PHE has advised us that only those pupils and staff who have been in very close and prolonged proximity to the individual need to isolate.

We have therefore contacted some pupils in Year 1 who, as a precaution, will now need to self-isolate, as well as a handful of staff members. In identifying those affected, we used a variety of information about where the individual had been and who they had been in contact with during the time they have been infected.

I would like to make clear that this is a single, isolated case that has occurred. There is no evidence that it was caught in the school or that anyone else in the school is infected.

PHE's advice is very clear: unless you have been contacted directly to say your child must isolate, every pupil should prepare to return to school as planned on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

The atmosphere across school has been very positive so far this term and I know how much pupils and staff have enjoyed returning to their normal routines. It is reassuring therefore that, due to the bubble system and social distancing processes we have put in place, the impact of this single case can be minimised.

We now have a robust home learning programme in place so that, where pupils may need to stay at home at any point, they don't miss out on any of their lessons. Likewise, where class



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teachers may need to self-isolate, we will ensure they can continue to teach from home via streamed lessons, although we will always have an adult supervising classes in person.

It is important that we all remain highly vigilant, however, particularly over the remainder of the half-term break as Barnsley's Covid alert is currently: very high (Tier 3), even though the risk to children is very small. There are things we can all do to help reduce the risk of getting ill with Covid-19:

- wash our hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds;
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available;
- wash our hands as soon as we get home;
- cover our mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when we cough or sneeze and put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash our hands afterwards.

If your child does show any symptoms of Covid-19 (a new, continuous cough and/or a high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste and smell) please do not send them to school but go to the dedicated NHS 111 Covid site, <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/> for details of what you need to do. For children under 5, please call NHS 111 for advice.

It is likely that most schools across the country will have isolated cases of Covid-19 this school year. We will of course deal with these appropriately, keep you informed and always follow the experts' advice. Our pupils have made an excellent start to their learning this year and we will be doing everything we can, as always, to ensure they can continue to thrive during their time with us.

Thank you again for your assistance and support.

With best wishes,

Mrs.Horton-Hale  
Principal  
Hunningley Primary School



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