

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Village
Westbury-on-Severn
Gloucestershire
GL14 1PA

Telephone (01452) 760303

Head Teacher: Mr D. Crunkhurn

Email: admin@westbury-on-severncofe.gloucs.sch.uk



**Westbury-on-Severn
CE Primary School**

Wednesday 3rd November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to write to update you with Local Authority guidance and communication to schools for this term regarding COVID19. I want to stress that the following is in no way indicative to our school setting, but generally to schools in Gloucestershire and the Southwest of England.

Situation Summary:

- The Southwest is experiencing the impact of national rising case rates and the impact of increased transmission arising from false negative PCR results.
- SW case rates have increased sharply against the national average and are expected to continue to rise.
- The majority of cases are in school age groups. There is evidence of this translating into adults of parent age.
- Over 60 rates are rising steadily. Hospital Admissions for COVID19 have increased.
- The greater prevalence is being seen in school-age children and their families.
- All local authority areas are in areas of rapidly rising infection and therefore triggering thresholds that warrant additional action.
- Enhanced mitigation measures are required to prevent transmission, prevent school closures and to maintain appropriate levels of education.

We are aware that during the last week of term, prior to the October holiday, we had a few confirmed cases of COVID in our school. Thankfully they were isolated cases and dealt with exceptionally well by parents. I am pleased to say that infection rates in our school continue to be minimal, however, we want to continue to do our best to prevent a significant outbreak at Westbury. So, with that in mind and in response to the Local Authority's recommendations for the next few weeks, I have decided on the following actions. These will be in place until 17th November 2021. I will review the situation after that.

- Family worship will not take place in school until 19th November. This will be confirmed.
- Essential visitors will be permitted to enter school by appointment only and continue to wear face-coverings.
- We ask that parents do not come into school unless a pre-arranged appointment has been made.

Children will be permitted to attend afterschool clubs if they have booked a place, providing that you are happy for them to attend. Clubs will be risk assessed as usual and monitored. We will continue to teach good hand hygiene and frequent handwashing.

We would continue to encourage you all to consider taking frequent Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) at least twice weekly. This will help identify any cases and support us in our approach to fighting this illness. If a member of your family does test positive, please ensure that the rest of your family are tested. It might be wise to take daily LFT whilst the member of your household is self-isolating.



I would also ask that you are mindful to the fact that whilst common colds and coughs are prevalent at this time of the year, any child displaying any symptoms should be treated as a possible carrier to COVID and should be tested prior to attending school. Even if negative, children should not be in school for at least 24 hours post fever and then only come in if they are well enough to engage fully in school-based activities.

Regrettably, as a result of this, the forthcoming Friends event planned for 9th November will have to be postponed until later in the term. I hope you understand.

In taking this course of action now, it is hoped that we will be able to continue with the exciting school-based activities we have planned before Christmas.

Thank you for your continued support and help as we work together during these difficult times.

With warmest regards,



David Crunkhurn
Headteacher
Westbury-on-Severn CE Primary School