

Stanhope Barrington C of E
Primary School



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Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

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Dear Parent/Carer

12th July 2021

Re: Covid-19 Update

I am writing to let you all know the current position regarding Covid-19 cases in school. We currently have two bubbles closed. The Diamond Learning Zone was closed on Thursday 8th July and the Sapphire Learning Zone has closed this morning before the start of school.

We have an increasing number of positive test results but these are limited to the Diamond and Sapphire Learning Zones. Therefore Opal, Amethyst, Ruby and Emerald Learning Zones all remain open at the current time.

Having said that, over two thirds of children have not attended school today and I understand that this is due to parents deciding not to risk sending their child(ren) to school for the sake of just a few more days. This decision is totally understandable given the fact that Covid appears to be surging through our local community and please be assured that no judgement is being made.

We have a number of staff who are isolating as a result of bubble closures and at the current time we are able to remain open. However, if we were to lose just one more member of staff this would put us in a position whereby I would have to consider closing the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to say how incredibly proud I am of the team. Everyone has worked tirelessly to try to keep Covid at bay and we really hoped to make it to the end of the academic year. Keeping our school Covid-secure since March 2020 until the last week of this academic year has been an amazing achievement. It has been a huge logistical challenge and behind the scenes, every single member of staff has stepped up and done whatever has been necessary; covering different roles and working way beyond reasonable expectations.

Parents and families have also been incredible and I am very grateful to you all for following our Covid Risk Assessment, wearing face coverings, using the one-way system and making sensible decisions about getting children tested, when to keep them off and when to take advice.

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We have all ensured that our school community pulls together and we are one of the few schools who have managed to remain fully open for such a long period of time.

At the end of my first year as Head Teacher, I can honestly say that it has been an enormous challenge but also an enormous privilege to work with such an amazing team; to get to know our fantastic parents and families; to work with our Academy Council who work so hard for our school and most importantly of all to see the smiles on the faces of our children as they come into school each morning.

As I've said in previous letters, we will not be contacting you with information during the course of the summer break but you will be sent detailed information regarding the plans for the new academic year after Wednesday 1st September 2021. Our team of staff are in school on 1st, 2nd and 3rd of September to make the necessary arrangements, take part in training and prepare the Learning Zones for our children's return.

I hope you all have a safe and peaceful holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 6th September 2021 when hopefully things might be a little more 'normal'.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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