

14th December 2020

Closing Woodpecker Hall School

Dear Parent/Carer,

Urgent: Coronavirus - Closure of Woodpecker Hall from tomorrow- Tuesday 15th December 2020

I am sorry to have to write to all our families today to inform you that we have had 5 new positive cases of coronavirus at our school.

We currently have 13 staff unable to come into work. On top of this we are now having to close the kitchen due to a member of the team testing positive.

If your child needs to self-isolate you would have received a separate letter, from us today, outlining your child's isolation period. If you have not received a separate letter you do not need to isolate. We have taken advice from Public Health England (PHE) and the local authority this evening and have reluctantly made the decision to close the school. With high numbers of staff absence and no kitchen facilities we are unable to operate the school.

As of tomorrow, Tuesday 15th December, the whole school will be shut and then reopen on Tuesday 5th January 2021. Please note we will not be open to the children of key workers.

Home Learning

For the next 2 days your child's teacher will be working from home too. Your child will be expected to continue to learn from home every day and your child's learning will be posted onto DB primary daily.

On the 3rd day, Thursday 17th December, the class teacher will hold a virtual party for your child.

They can join the zoom meeting and wear their Christmas jumper.

The class teacher will arrange a time for this to take place.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared.

Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged [here](#) or by calling 119 .

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay at Home' Guidance [here](#).

COVID-19 Symptoms

If your child is well now, they do not need any specific treatment. However, you should be vigilant for any symptoms of COVID-19 infection and where these are observed seek a test.

The common symptoms of recent onset of:

- New continuous cough and/or
- High temperature
- Loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If you, or anyone in your family, has these symptoms now or in the future, arrange to have a test as soon as possible, stay at home for 10 days from when your symptoms started, even if you are mildly unwell.

All other members of your household will need to self-isolate for 10 days. This is to protect others in your community.

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 [here](#).

Testing for people with symptoms is available and more information can be found [here](#).

Precautions

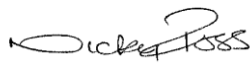
There are things you can do to avoid catching or spreading coronavirus:

- Wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- When you leave your home, always wash your hands when you return
- Use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- Put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

I am very sorry that I have been forced to take this action. If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the school office on the numbers at the start of the letter.

Kind Regards,

Nicky Ross



Headteacher

Woodpecker Hall and Cuckoo Hall Academy

CHAT Leader of Primary Education