

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Covid-19 Changes to Track and Trace**

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we returned to school in September, the Government guidance, on how schools manage a positive Covid-19 case has changed.

In your welcome back letter, we explained some of the changes that effects the running of the school and how the Government classify a Covid-19 outbreak in a school setting.

Unfortunately, a member of our school community tested positive for Covid-19 yesterday and I thought it would be helpful to explain the Government procedures in more detail to all parents.

The NHS will now carry out all track and trace for children and adults in all school settings. If your child tests positive on a PCR, the NHS will contact parents to identify close contacts in school and at home.

NHS Track and Trace may call the school to support with the identification of close contacts in the school.

The NHS will contact all identified close contacts and will advise of the steps to be taken.

This is a very different process than the one carried out in schools previously.

The main differences are outlined below:

We will inform you if there is a positive test in the class. However, we cannot tell you who the individual is.

Only close contacts, as defined by the NHS & Public Heath England, will be informed by the NHS. Children who are close contacts can return to school whilst waiting for the outcome of their PCR test.

With our positive case today, the school carried out the Track and Trace. However, after speaking with Public Health England they have confirmed that the school is no longer responsible for this and it is solely the responsibility of the NHS to track and trace.

This is a new system introduced by the Government and I'm sure over the next few weeks they will be reviewing the process. I will inform you of any updates we receive as we get them.

Just a reminder that if your child is feeling unwell and is displaying any of the Covid-19 symptoms they must not come in to school. They should get a PCR and wait for the results.

Covid-19 Symptoms are:

- Persistent cough
- High temperature
- Loss of taste or smell

If you have any questions in regards to this, then please contact the school to speak with myself or Gemma Vincent.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicky Ross". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'N' and 'R'.

Nicky Ross  
Headteacher [Woodpecker Hall Academy](#)  
**NSCT** Leader of Primary Education