



26th November, 2020

To the Families of children in Miss McMaster's Year 5 class,

As you will be aware, we have worked very hard in order to ensure that our school is a Covid-secure and safe place for our pupils and our staff.

We have carefully followed all of the public health advice and guidance, and have carried out an in-depth risk assessment in order to put in place measures to minimise the risk of the virus spreading. This risk assessment is regularly reviewed as guidance is updated.

However, while the virus remains with wider society - and with cases in our area now rising - it is perhaps to be expected that we will experience some cases within our school community.

On Monday, we were informed that a pupil in Miss McMaster's class had tested positive for COVID-19. We contacted **Public Health England immediately** and **followed their guidance and instruction, identifying all of the close contacts that needed to be sent home to self-isolate.**

This morning, we were informed that another pupil had tested positive in Miss McMaster's class. We contacted Public Health England on receipt of this information and, as a precautionary measure, we took the decision to send all of Miss McMaster's class home to self-isolate until we had received guidance and instruction from Public Health England.

I have just received this guidance from Public Health England and, **in light of the fact that this is the second case this week in Miss McMaster's class, we have now been instructed that all pupils in Miss McMaster's Year 5 class will now need to self-isolate for 14 days.**

Pupils who were sent home on **Monday** can return to school on **FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER.**

Pupils who were sent home **today** can return to school on **THURSDAY 10th DECEMBER.**

We are sorry that we have to take this step and we understand that this will cause inconvenience for many of you.

However, at this time, we have no choice but to take this action to ensure the safety of staff and pupils while they are in school in line with **Public Health England guidance.**

If your child is eligible for a Free School Meal, a school packed lunch can be delivered to your home if requested each morning. Please email Mrs McDine if you wish to receive a Free School Meal each morning.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your Year 5 child does not develop symptoms.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- New continuous cough and/or
- High temperature and/or
- A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell

If your child develops any of these symptoms, they should remain at home and arrangements should be made for them to be tested by ringing 119 or visiting the NHS website: [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus). At that time, all other household members must also stay at home and not go to work, school or public areas even for exercise.

Miss McMaster will set work for your child so that they can continue their studies at home and this will be uploaded onto the Home Learning section of our school website. The work for this week has already been uploaded.

We thank you for your ongoing support and we will continue to keep you informed and up-to-date with any new information.

With my very best wishes,

C.Meldrum

Mrs Meldrum
Acting Headteacher