



Date 24/1/22

Covid update for all parents

Dear Parent/Carer

I wanted to write to all of you to update you on the situation we are experiencing in school at the moment, related to Covid pupil and staff absences. Despite the national trend being one of reducing cases, we are experiencing the most challenging circumstances that we have faced since the Covid pandemic began.

Many of you will be receiving the official letters with this communication, that relate to hitting a specific threshold of cases in a class, although during last week, we began to experience such absences across the whole and so we have had to implement the 'additional measures' recommended by the Local Public Health Team generally across the school.

These have included reverting to classes having separate playtimes, an emphasis on handwashing and good ventilation, a focus on cleaning frequently touched surfaces and staff wearing masks in communal areas (not in classrooms).

We have been advised that these measures (introduced last week) should run for two weeks, then be reviewed and so we will see where we are at the end of this week.

It has been very sad to see so many of our children not being able to be in school and it has been very difficult to keep all the year groups 'open', with so many staff absences and supply agencies often unable to help, as they too are inundated with requests from schools locally.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff, who have been marvelous in working together as a team to support each other and to offer extra hours to cover for absence, often in areas of the school they do not normally work in. Thank you to everyone!

This week we have a very large number of Saplings staff absent and we have only been able to open partially. Thank you to all the parents / carers who responded to our email over the weekend and indicated they could look after their children at home. This has eased pressure on us and allowed us to use the staff we have to support parents / carers unable to do this. We are

Adam J.G Campbell (Headteacher)

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very very grateful to all our Saplings parents, for their support and understanding. (Saplings will contact you regarding any adjustments to fees).

I would like to wish all the children who are not well at the moment a speedy recovery, we are all missing you and looking forward to seeing you back in school.

Thank you to all of you for your support and understanding and let's hope we can get back to some sense of normality soon!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Adam J.G. Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Adam J.G. Campbell
Headteacher