

11th December 2020

Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of the Autumn term and begin looking forward to Christmas, I would like to share a few thoughts about the coming months. As I have continually shared, I cannot be more proud of our Overchurch community in relation to how everyone has adapted and reacted to the ongoing situation.

As you will be aware, the guidance is fluid and we are all adapting to the changes in expectations. However, despite the changes to guidance regarding society in general, I do not feel school systems and expectations will alter in the near future. This will result in our present organisation remaining in place in throughout January and beyond.

The continued support from parents and the ongoing procedures within school have helped to keep us all as safe as possible. However, we all need to consider the possible significant and devastating impact of self-isolation on individuals, families and bubbles over the festive period.

As a school, we have been discussing the critical date of the 11th December and beyond; as an isolation period from that date will result in an isolation period including Christmas Day. The implications for individuals and families would be devastating with obvious wellbeing concerns. Societies, families and individuals have made huge sacrifices over the past 10 months and the thought of spending Christmas under relative normality would be fantastic.

With this in mind, **we urge you to continue to be extra vigilant when deciding to send your child into school if your child or any other family member has any symptoms that could possibly be related to Covid-19.** All absences due to Covid related symptoms and isolation are authorised during this current period and we will keep you updated if this changes at any time. If you are in any doubt at all, please contact the school office for further guidance.

Despite what you may have read/heard in the media, school will be open to pupils as planned on Friday 18th December.

As we approach the Christmas holidays, we want to make sure all parents/carers are clear on the actions we would ask you to take if unfortunately, your child becomes symptomatic or tests positive for Covid-19 whilst we are away from school.

Please refer to the table below.

Dates	Actions	Contacts
Up to 20 th December 2020 (or a few days after if test results are delayed)	Continue to notify the school if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 or is tested and the results are positive	Email: covid@overchurch-infant.wirral.sch.uk
After 20 th December 2020	You only need to contact school if your child tests positive for Covid-19 and your child was in school 48 hours before the symptoms began or if no symptoms from the date of the test.	
4 th January 2021 (INSET Day)	Notify the school if your child is self-isolating and will not be returning on the 5 th January 2021	Phone school office 677 3335 or Email: covid@overchurch-infant.wirral.sch.uk
5 th January 2021 onwards	Notify school if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 or is tested, same procedure as before the holidays	Email: covid@overchurch-infant.wirral.sch.uk

The specific email (**covid@overchurch-infant.wirral.sch.uk**) will be monitored during the above times for this purpose only. Please don't use the schooloffice@ email address. Thank you for all your support in the last few months. We are so grateful for everyone's efforts in helping keep the school community safe and hope you have a safe and happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely,



Mr S Elliott
Headteacher