

THE VICTORY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Executive Principal: Mr. J.Hartley

Head of School: Mrs K Jones

04/11/2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Since our return from the half term holiday, parents have asked us an increased number of questions about Covid. We understand the increased anxiety following Thursday's return to lockdown and felt that now was the time to reassure you that we are doing everything we can to minimise the risk of infection at school particularly as we have had to shut down Octopus class for a few days because of our first case of Covid in their bubble. In addition to the systems that we already had in place we will now be ensuring that all adults in school wear visors in communal areas and are reducing the number of visitors to school. We are in the process of updating our risk assessment and will let you know when the latest version goes on the website.

Currently there is no change in the expectation that children will continue to come to school during the lockdown period. The Chief and Deputy Chief Medical Officers in the UK have been very clear on the benefits and risks of attendance. (A copy of their press release is posted on our website.) A small number of parents have asked us whether they should keep their children at home because, for example, they have vulnerable relatives. We recognise that this is a dilemma and have empathy for parents in this situation. However, the current rules are that school attendance remains compulsory for children of compulsory school age and that the absence will be marked as unauthorised unless the child is having to officially self-isolate.

Please can parents help us keep Covid at bay by following the rules. In particular by:

- Following social distancing rules whilst on school grounds
- Wearing a mask whilst on the school grounds
- Arranging telephone meetings rather than speaking to teachers face to face
- Avoiding visits to the office if possible - and wearing a face-covering if you do.
- Ensuring only one adult per family drops off children
- Sticking to staggered start & finish times. (We have noticed some lateness recently)
- Walking on the left of the pavement
- Letting us know straight away if you child has Covid Symptoms
- Following the rules out of school

By the end of the week, you will receive a letter from the school about the learning we will provide for children who are off school for Covid-related reasons, for example maybe they are awaiting a test, their sibling has the virus or their whole class is shielding. Parents/Carers will be signposted to training that will show how to access the online learning materials that we will produce for each year group (similar to the remote learning that we provided during the last lockdown) as well as how their child can access **live** lessons every day direct from their classroom. There will be an expectation that every child who should be in school is in school whilst every child that is, for example, shielding at home, attends school remotely every day in time for their lessons. The letter will also give you details of how parents/carers will be able to borrow a Chromebook from us if they don't have access to a suitable device at home.

Finally, a big thank you to all our parents/carers-particularly those from Octopus, for their support. We really appreciate it.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Hartley
Executive Headteacher



Mrs K Jones
Headteacher