



Stoneydelph Primary School

Crowden Road
Wilnecote
Tamworth
B77 4LS

23rd September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now three weeks into the Autumn term and with only a few minor alterations, the procedures we put in place to minimise risk of Covid-19 have been successful. The staff and pupils have adhered to the guidance from the government and the school risk assessment to ensure our whole school community remains safe in these challenging times.

Unfortunately the virus is on the rise and this is coinciding with the winter cold and flu season, which always sees an increase in the number of school pupils falling ill with the usual runny noses, sore throats and coughs. This is a huge challenge for us all as we want to ensure we follow Government guidance regarding testing but also balancing the need for pupils to still attend school if they are experiencing common 'cold' symptoms.

If your child has minor cold symptoms (runny nose, sneezing, sore throat) they may still attend school if they are well enough. If they have a **persistent cough, loss of taste or smell and high temperature**, they must self-isolate (along with any siblings) until they have been tested for Covid-19 and may return to school when they have had a negative test result if they are well enough. If you are unsure if your child should be attending school, our main office is open from 8am-4pm for any queries.

In order to prevent the spread of all viruses, we have rigorous cleaning and hygiene procedures in place. A summary of our Covid-19 risk mitigation measures is listed below which should reassure parents and carers of the steps we are taking to minimise the spread of these illnesses in school.

- Staggered start and end of the day to avoid large groups of pupils and adults gathering at the gates
- Hand sanitiser points at every entrance to the school building
- Lunchtime cleaning schedule across the school for toilets, door and touch points
- Regular handwashing and washing of shared equipment (eg: PE equipment) after each use
- Individual stationary packs given to pupils to avoid sharing
- Pupils from Year 2-6 seated in rows facing the front of the classroom
- Average class size of under 25 pupils remain in class 'bubbles' for teaching time
- Age phase 'bubbles' use separate outdoor playgrounds at lunch or break times
- Whole school assemblies take place virtually via 'zoom'
- PPE used by staff when close contact with pupils is needed
- External visitors to the school site are kept to a minimum and Strict Covid-19 protocols in place for any visitors to the school, including collection of track and trace details.

More details can be found on the school website in our 'Return to school plan' and 'Risk Assessment'. In the event of a positive case of Covid-19 amongst our school, we will follow advice from the Department for Education and Public Health England and parents and carers will be informed accordingly. Thank you for your support and I am confident that by maintaining these systems we can continue to provide a fantastic education for your children during these challenging times.

Yours faithfully

Mrs E. Parsons