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Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to my letter on Friday I am now writing to give you a further update.

I am pleased to inform you that a negative test result came back in respect of the family member of a child in Oak class, which led to my decision to close the group last week.

In light of last week's events I thought it would be helpful to clarify our intention should a similar situation present itself. We, as a school, have always made decisions based upon what we consider is in the best interests of your children, you as their families and school staff; this means putting health, safety and wellbeing at the forefront of all considerations at this time. We have fully considered all government guidance and the reality is our procedures go above and beyond guidance, in some instances, because we believe it is right to do so.

If a child displays any symptoms what so ever in school, we will isolate the child immediately, contact you and ask you to come and collect them and keep them at home until such time as you receive a negative test result. If this happens, we will close down the group for all children and staff and no one should return to school until we confirm a test result has been received. If the result is negative children can return to school. If the result is positive all of those children should, in accordance with government guidance self-isolate for 14 days. The guidance states that other family members do not need to self-isolate unless tier own child displays symptoms. In my letter last Wednesday morning I did suggest that it would be appropriate for all families to self-isolate. This was not in line with guidance and is a personal choice.

We are very mindful that as parents and carers you, like us, remain very anxious about the Covid-19 situation and the impact the virus may have on us. For this reason, we are asking you, in the spirit of openness and honesty, to share in confidence with us if a household member is displaying symptoms. If this happens we believe it is entirely appropriate, in order to prevent exposing the school community to unnecessary risk; to close the group as outlined above.

I hope you will all understand that this demonstrates how we are striving to put the health and wellbeing of your children and the school community first.

What I will promise you is that whatever happens in the coming days and weeks I will be in regular communication with you.

Yours sincerely
Miss K Aldred