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6<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear parents and carers,

At the end of the first week of the new academic year we have reflected on what has gone well and what we have learned. As consequence we have now reviewed our protocols relating to COVID-19. I am writing to you now to update you on the changes that we have put in place.

There were several occasions last week when I was contacted by individual parents and carers reporting concerns over their children's health and in some cases displaying symptoms associated with COVID-19. As I hope you will appreciate I have a duty to balance the health and safety of children and staff with the obvious priority to ensure children's access to learning. The closure of one of our class bubbles on Friday resulted from a combination of factors which for reasons of confidentiality are not appropriate to share. Happily I can now report all concerned have received negative test results.

However, we are mindful of the time of year and the likelihood of this situation being repeated many times, with the related impact on children's learning and wellbeing and have therefore decided to make the following changes;

- In line with Department for Education advice issued at 4.00pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September, if we are informed that a member of a bubble has symptoms, we will contact our local Public Health England Health Protection Team. Unless we are advised to the contrary the bubble will remain open to all bar the symptomatic bubble member. However, if multiple members of a class bubble are symptomatic we will always consider closing the bubble.
- In the event of a positive test outcome we will again contact the local health protection team. Staff and children working in the same class bubble as the individual who has a positive test result, will be sent home and advised to follow PHE advice on self-isolation.

Please be assured that all decisions taken relating to COVID-19, always have the health, safety and wellbeing of our entire school community at their heart.

Yours sincerely

Miss K Aldred