



Wednesday 12th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to give you an update around Covid cases at Grasmere and to ask for your continued support in being vigilant. As you can well imagine, with the news that infections rates are at their highest peak, we are now seeing this across all schools in North Tyneside and Grasmere is no exception.

We now have positive cases in almost all classes and I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to ensure, before sending your child into school that they are fit and well enough to be here.

The rules as they stand at the moment are:

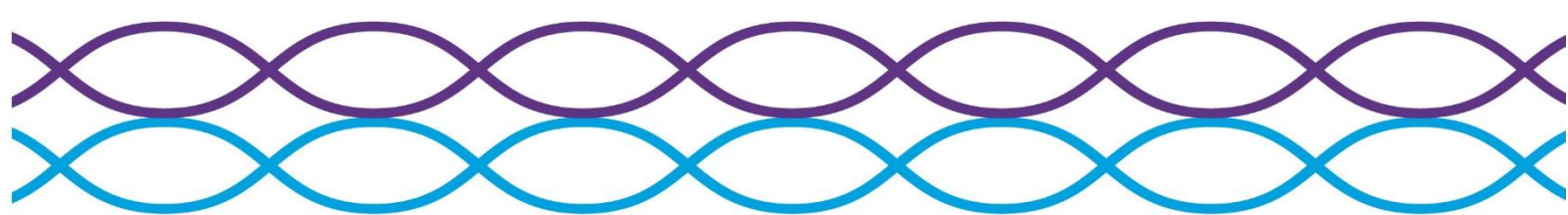
- 1) If your child is poorly with COVID symptoms - please book a PCR test**
- 2) If you / your child is an officially identified close contact then please ensure that, for 7 days, a daily lateral flow test is taken each morning, before your child comes to school.**
- 3) If your child tests positive on a lateral flow test, they must isolate immediately - there is no need for a confirmatory PCR test.**

If you are in any doubt whatsoever, then please ring the school office, before bringing your child into school.

It is our job now, to keep school open and running as 'normal.' It is so important that children's learning is continued and school is seen as a happy and safe environment to be in. Schools have been advised not to go back into a bubble system, but we may, as a result of high cases, need to add additional social distancing rules inside school in order to try and slow the spread of the virus, for example, year groups eating separately in the school hall for dinner and assemblies moving back to remote.

Remote learning update:

We will, if needed, provide remote learning for children who are well enough to access it online. This will be done as previous lockdowns through Seesaw. We will need you to let us



know if your child needs home learning. Please see below different scenarios that might help you to make those decisions:

What if I am waiting for a PCR test result, and I'm likely to only be waiting for 24 hours (not a postal home testing kit) and my child is well?

In this instance there are many things that your child can already access at home. Examples of this are, Times Tables Rock Stars, Sumdog, Online educational games, reading for pleasure books at home and any tasks already set by their teacher on Seesaw.

What if I am waiting for a PCR test result, which has been a home testing kit and likely to be longer than a days wait, and my child is well?

In this instance, please contact school and we can arrange remote learning via Seesaw.

What if my child has tested positive on a PCR Test or a Lateral Flow test and is poorly?

In this instance, your child is unwell, there is no requirement for them to do home learning.

What if my child has tested positive but is well with little or no symptoms?

In this instance, please contact school and we will arrange remote learning via Seesaw.

What if my child has been poorly with Covid, is now better, but can not come out of isolation yet?

In this instance, once your child is well enough please contact school and we will arrange remote learning via Seesaw

What if everyone in the household has tested positive, but my child has not?

In this instance, as long as your child has a negative daily lateral flow test, they can come into school. I understand the difficulties of getting your child to school if all adults are poorly, however friends/family can bring or collect children if required. If you are still struggling to get your child to school, please contact us, however unfortunately the absence will not be authorised. This is following the guidelines set out by the DfE.

I appreciate this is a long letter, but I hope that I have made current rules clear and thank you again for your continued support.

Mrs Lilico
Headteacher

