



## **RE: Weekly update 12/3/21**

Dear Parent Carers - Happy 're-opening' of schools!

Let me first say how lovely it has been this week to see the great majority of our children and young people back to school, happy, lively, and motivated. The school is buzzing with energy again and we couldn't be happier to be one step closer to normality! We continue to support our children, young people and staff who are advised to carry on shielding, to be at home, and we look forward to welcoming them back after such a long period of isolation, after the 31<sup>st</sup> March. We will be in touch with those staff and parent carers before this date to discuss any personalised arrangements that we can put in place to help make the transition back to us as smooth and as supportive as possible.

### **The situation this week - Class bubble closures**

- Thankfully there have been zero positive Covid cases.
- I am very happy to feedback that we have zero class bubbles closed in our first week of re-opening! Thank you for your attention and cautious approach to your child/ young person showing any symptoms of being unwell. We appreciate that you are keeping your child/ young person at home in these instances to help keep our environments Covid-safe and secure.
- There have been zero asymptomatic cases identified from the lateral flow tests.

### **Lateral Flow Test (LFT) home testing kits for families**

We have received information from Shropshire Local Authority about home testing for family members at <https://newsroom.shropshire.gov.uk/2021/03/coronavirus-families-encouraged-rapid-testing/>. I have also shared the attached list of locations of where your family can collect LFT testing kits and the following link which takes you to a press release aimed at parent carers and information on social distancing at <https://newsroom.shropshire.gov.uk/2021/03/plea-parents-ahead-pupils-return/>.

### **Class bulletins**

Thank you for the positive feedback that many of you gave to our class teams regarding the introduction of the first class bulletin sent to you last week. Our staff teams are keen to develop the quality and usefulness of these with you, so let your teacher know if you would like any further input.

### **Class pets**

We have received some queries regarding the class pet strategy in the Formal department. We will share more information as part of next week's weekly update where we will share class plans and considerations that class staff and pupils have thought about to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of each animal being introduced.

I will keep this update brief as there is a lot of external information that I have shared this week, as well as the Open Letter from Vicky Ford, MP for Children's and Families, which I have attached, together with a handout about the Community Children and Young People's Health Services during the Covid-19 Pandemic. However, please let me know if there is anything we can help you with.

Best wishes,

**Sabrina Hobbs, Principal**