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Friday 29th January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

VERY IMPORTANT LETTER – TEST AND TRACE FOR STAFF IN PRIMARY EDUCATION

Dear Parents,

Test and Trace Staff in Primary Schools will begin a voluntary system of twice weekly COVID testing using Lateral Flow Devices in the coming weeks. This will allow staff who might be asymptomatic to be identified and start their isolations to prevent unknown transmission in school.

There will be no pupil testing at primary schools.

There are implications for parents of children attending school during lockdown so please read this carefully.

If a member of staff tests asymptomatic positive and they have been in contact with children at school, then all key workers and vulnerable children in that bubble will be also asked to isolate for 10 days (contact tracing). This does not require the household to isolate (contacts of a contact) unless the child shows any symptoms, but there are implications for supervision of your child at home. The key worker place will not be available during the 10-day isolation window for **any** pupil in that bubble.

Asymptomatic positive staff will continue to work from home and will be available to continue to record lessons but since they will not have access to all their resources at school or photocopying materials the timetable and work may look different to our now established set up.

If a member of staff tests asymptomatic positive but the window of contact with pupils is not breached, we will determine if we have the available staff in school to supervise Key Worker places while the teacher works from home. If staff are available for cover (who are allowed to work between bubbles), the bubble will open as normal but if we do not have staff available we may have to close the bubble on Health & Safety grounds. If the bubble remains open, teaching and learning will go ahead as usual with staff directing their colleagues from home.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Brown
Headteacher