

Dear Parents/Carers

As you are already aware, we had to close down the Year 5 Bubble on Friday due to a positive COVID-19 result. As a consequence and as a precaution we have also closed Year 1M both Year 2 classes and both Y6 classes. Unfortunately, Y6H has also now been highlighted as a possible risk hence the reason why this affects both Y6 classes. This is far from an ideal situation and we apologise for any inconvenience this will undoubtedly cause.

As I am sure you can appreciate, the decision to partially close the school was not taken lightly but made following consultation and advice from the Director of Public Health and the Director of Children's Services. Thankfully, it was not deemed necessary to close the whole school.

Following the advice given, the children in Year 5 will need to be extra vigilant, as they may have had close contact with the person testing positive. **This means that only Year 5 are required to self-isolate for 14 days**, which means they must remain at home, and not attend school with parents who are taking siblings to and from school. If they do develop any of the symptoms, a test can be booked via NHS website or by calling 119. Please note that the symptoms could show at any time within the 14-day period. Therefore, with this in mind, the children are able to return to school on Thursday 15th October.

There will be plenty of work set remotely by the teachers to avoid any further disruption to the children's learning. The teachers concerned will be self-isolating and therefore working remotely but are still contactable. Please check the Class Blogs where the teachers will be setting learning tasks on a daily basis. If your child does not have access to a laptop/computer can you please let us know without delay via the office admin email so that alternative arrangements can be made. If you have any problems with the work set, please email the office admin so that the specific class teachers can be informed and they will sort any issues that may arise.

Once again, apologies for the situation we find ourselves in but we have to adhere to the guidelines given in the hope that the infection can be brought under control particularly in Sandwell and the surrounding areas. It is incredibly frustrating particularly as we have only been back in school for 5 weeks.

Thank you for the many positive comments and messages of support that we have received since our return to school this term. Any further updates will be shared via the school Website, Facebook Page and Twitter. Please take care and keep safe.

Kind Regards

Mrs Jones

