Edenfield C E Primary School

17th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As much as I would prefer to avoid a letter about Covid19 on the last day of term as we approach Christmas, it is only right that I share the latest advice on the updated procedures for testing and isolation ahead of the new spring term. The most recent government guidance is as follows:

From 14 December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result. Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:

- **fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine**
- **all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status**
- **people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons**
- **people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine**

Please note, children under 5 years are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts.

Thank you to all our parents and carers who have supported the school so brilliantly. As a community we have all worked hard, throughout the term, to minimise the spread of infection effectively, and to keep the children as safe as possible. As a result, disruption to the school curriculum, as well as additional enrichment activities, has been minimised.

I am so sorry to hear of pupils testing positive this morning meaning they will be in isolation over the Christmas period. This must be very upsetting for parents and extended families – we hope that symptoms remain mild, that the children are fully recovered for the big day, and that there will be opportunities to reschedule special plans for the second week of the break.

Hopefully, the new year will bring more optimistic news and school life can continue to run as normal without the reintroduction of restrictions. It has been so wonderful to enjoy an 'almost normal' autumn term and long may this continue – it is what our children need and deserve.

Yours faithfully

C. L. Garner
Headteacher