Edenfield C E Primary School

4th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the new spring term. I am aware that many of you had your plans for Christmas disrupted by Covid19 but do hope that, despite this, you managed to enjoy some rest and relaxation over the festive period. Hopefully, the situation will soon begin to improve; I know I speak on behalf of many when I say I am delighted that we have been able to return to school with no added restrictions in our setting. Long may this continue.

However, in the light of the rapid spread of infection, and the possibility of compromised staffing, please do continue to follow the advice as follows:

- **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 (or more) 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**

As last term we will be sending a 'warn and inform' letter if your child has been identified as a close contact of a positive case in school. We will now be requesting that those children aged 5 years and above, take an LFD test on a daily basis for seven days after receiving the notification. If your child tests negative then they can continue to attend school. If they test positive, then they will need to isolate.

I am sure you are all now aware of the revised procedures for self-isolation. These are as follows:

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further information, including examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms, is available in the stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection.

Can I please urge you to be vigilant if your child becomes unwell as it is becoming increasingly evident that, at the onset of Covid19, individuals may experience symptoms different to, or in addition to, those typically listed (cough, high temperature and changes to smell and taste). For example, a headache, runny nose and excessive tiredness can also be signs.

Furthermore, if your child is unwell and receives a negative test, please do keep them at home until the worst of their symptoms have passed. It is vital that we try to minimise the spread of illness and infection in school so that we can continue to operate as normal.

Remote education will still be provided for students who test positive with Covid19. Staff will ensure that work is available for the start of your child's normal lesson time, but please be aware this may be difficult on the first day of an isolation. Similarly, there may be a small delay if the class teacher is also isolating or unwell. Remote learning will be posted through google classroom as normal.

Finally, please may I remind you that all Covid19 notifications and test results should be sent to covidupdates@edenfield.lancs.sch.uk or head@edenfield.lancs.sch.uk
The general school address (on the website) is for enquiries only and is not checked on evenings, weekends or during the holidays.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

C. L. Garner
Headteacher

Guided by God, following in his footsteps
Our vision is theologically centred on Psalm 119:105
Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path