

19.1.22

RE: Several cases of COVID-19 in Mercury Class

As you may already know there are now several cases of COVID-19 in this Class. In line with our COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan we are introducing additional control measures to the class **this week**. This includes:

- Children will be in their class bubble this week. They will have lunch in their classroom and play in a designated place outside. They will not mix with children in other classes inside or outside.
- We are reducing the number of contacts the class has with other adults across the school.
- The class will not attend any face-to-face assemblies.
- The Class will not be able to attend after school enrichment clubs and Extend breakfast/afterschool club. If your child is booked into attending any of these clubs, **please collect your child at the end of the school day/don't drop them off at breakfast club**. You will be given a credit/refund accordingly.
- There will be no booster sessions for the class.

These measures will be in place for this week and I will continue to review these measures accordingly. I will update you all on Friday about next week. We will only send all the children home in the class to self isolate as a last resort.

The [guidance](#) states that children are not required to self-isolate if they are a close contact however they should take a lateral flow device test (LFD) for 7 days. **Therefore please ensure your child takes a LFD test before they come into school each day.**

Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19. Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 will help protect education settings by reducing transmission and will also help keep pupils in face-to-face education. If your child tests negative, they can continue to attend school. Outside school, please continue to follow the advice set out in the [Sunday 12 December press release](#).

If your child tests positive, they should self-isolate, please advise the school as soon as possible. As you may be aware from 17 January, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 5 days, following two negative LFD tests, taken 24 hours apart. Therefore if your child tests positive for COVID-19, they may now take LFD tests on day 5 and day 6 of their self-isolation period. If they receive two negative test results and do not have a high temperature your child can come back to school from **day 6**. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

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As from Tuesday 11 January if your child tests positive on a LFD test there is no requirement to obtain a confirmatory PCR test. Your child must however report the positive result on the Government website and advise the school. They must then isolate at home as detailed above.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that your **child should not come to school if they have developed COVID-19 symptoms or have had a positive test result.** If your child develops [COVID-19 symptoms](#) (high temperature; a new continuous cough; or a loss or change in sense of taste or smell) however mild, they will be sent home and you should follow public health advice.

I do hope that those children who have tested positive are ok and their symptoms are mild. The class teacher will be posting work on Google Classroom for those children who are isolating at home.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Please do get in contact if you have any questions.

With my very best wishes

Tijen Hassan
Headteacher