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Executive Headteacher: Miss D Risley

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**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know the rules around Covid-19 and isolation have changed. When there is a positive case in the school community, schools are no longer required to close the entire class or ask everybody to isolate. However, we do wish to be transparent with our community so that parents and carers can take whatever action they feel necessary to keep themselves and their families as safe as possible. We will therefore inform parents and carers when a positive case is reported in their child's class or their phase.

### **Current Guidance**

All those who have tested positive must isolate for 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and so must not attend school. Siblings and other family members must take a PCR test at a test centre.

Whilst awaiting the result of the test adults and children may still attend work and school, as long as they do not display symptoms themselves, and

- they are below the age of 18 years, 6 months
- or, they are an adult who has been fully vaccinated.

### **Who is a Close Contact?**

All close contacts of somebody testing positive are advised that they should take a PCR test, which is administered at a test centre (not the home-based lateral flow test). It is difficult to accurately judge who is a close contact in a primary classroom, as potentially all pupils and staff come into contact with each other on a daily basis. If you wish to take your child for a PCR test please advise school. Children can return to school once a PCR test has been administered and only need to isolate should the result be positive.

The current Government guidance regards a close contact as:

- anyone who lives in the same household as another person who has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19.
- anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within one metre.
- been within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact.
- been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day).
- a person who has travelled in the same vehicle or plane as a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

We would advise all parents and carers of children in all classes to continue to be vigilant and book a PCR test if their child displays symptoms or they believe that they have been a close contact. Those displaying symptoms must stay at home until the result of the test is known.

We would also advise parents and carers to continue asymptomatic testing (lateral flow tests) for children aged over 11 years, where they have been advised to do so.

### **When to Inform School**

If your child is displaying symptoms and needs to be tested or has had a positive result, please inform school by email to all three addresses below, so that we can be certain of picking up the email outside school hours.

admin@bawtrymayflower.doncaster.sch.uk  
n.walker@bawtrymayflower.doncaster.sch.uk  
executivehead@bawtrymayflower.doncaster.sch.uk

During the school day you can inform school by phone, but you may have to leave a message at busy times (particularly either side of the beginning and end of the school day).

Kind regards

Miss Risley

Executive Headteacher

