

15 March 2021



**Westborough
High School**
Together we Succeed

Dear Parent/carers,

Important Covid 19 information

It is wonderful to have so many pupils back in school; they have responded incredibly well and are enjoying being back in the rhythm and routines of school life. Thank you for your response to the mass testing in schools. The pupils have been absolutely amazing, participating in the testing process and really demonstrating how they are putting the school and wider community first. If you have concerns or queries about this, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

To update you, we have had 6 positive cases identified so far through the asymptomatic testing; this is a vital part of the national plan to suppress the spread of the virus. Picking up the cases so early, **before** there are any symptoms will really help the fight against Covid 19.

However, this does mean disruption for some pupils who will now have to self-isolate at home because they are a close contact. I am so sorry for this as the last thing we need is further disruption, but safety must come first and we have to do all we can to protect each other from this highly transmissible disease. We are following public health guidance in all our procedures.

Close contact very important information

If your child is a close contact, you will receive a text to let you know and the message will ask you to pick your child up within **an hour** of the text notification. This is to reduce the amount of time close contacts are in school.

Clearly it is best if you are able to collect your child, but we appreciate this may not be possible and so **if you cannot** pick your child up within the hour, they will be allowed to make their own way straight home as they would usually do at the end of the school day. We appreciate how difficult this is for parents/carers, but I am sure you can understand the need to act as swiftly as we can to keep everyone safe by minimising the spread of the virus.

If you have any concerns with this, please contact school either by telephone or by emailing datarequests@w-h-s.org.uk, **by 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday 17 March 2021** and we can help to address them.

Remote Education

Please go on the school website for the remote education offer for your child while they are self-isolating. As families you have been simply fantastic at supporting your child/ren through these challenging times and I would like to thank you in anticipation for continuing this during any period of self-isolation. If you have difficulty accessing Microsoft Teams, or if you have loaned a lap top in the past contact school by phone or by emailing datarequests@w-h-s.org.uk

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Telephone: 01924 469549 Fax: 01924 485935

Email: office@w-h-s.org.uk

Website: www.w-h-s.org.uk

Free School Meals

We have been given the following advice from the local authority - where a child is isolating and that means they cannot access an Income Related Free School Meal; support can be provided through the Local Welfare Provision team. Again, please contact the school if you need assistance.

Finally, Westborough is incredibly busy at the moment as we balance the everyday running of the school with the additional demands of mass testing and track and trace, but I am so proud of the collective 'can do' approach of all the staff here. They are working so very hard and it is a joy to have the pupils back in the building. Your support continues to be central to our success – thank you.

Kind regards



Jennifer Napper
Headteacher

As a school, we all need to:

Clean our hands more often using soap and water, as well as the hand sanitiser found in all classrooms and social spaces.

Wear face mask in classrooms and communal areas

Keep rooms well-ventilated – windows open

Have good respiratory hygiene habits: 'Catch it, bin it, kill it'. Use the tissues and bins provided.

Follow the year group 'bubble' systems and stay in your dedicated areas as required.

Not enter the 2-metre teaching areas as marked out in classrooms during lessons.

Use the year group specific entrance/exit to enter and leave school.

Follow instructions from all adults quickly and sensibly.

Not attend school and follow public health advice if you have any symptoms of coronavirus.