

Letter to all parents

Dear Parents and Carers,

As some of you may be aware, unfortunately, we have had notification of positive COVID-19 tests within Years 1, 2 and 5. I have spent much of the morning working with Public Health England to ensure that we are taking the right actions to minimise risk to our school community.

The advice that Public Health have given is outlined below:

Only staff and children within the specific year groups need to self-isolate.

Siblings of children in these year groups are advised to continue to attend school unless they develop symptoms themselves. Children in other year groups are advised to remain in school.

As per the guidance from Public Health England, children will only need to be tested if they develop any of the symptoms as listed on the DfE and NHS websites:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

We will continue with our thorough cleaning schedule that we have in place. Staff and leaders across school are working tirelessly to ensure that we are following all of the guidance being issued. I appreciate that this is a very worrying and challenging time for the whole Birchfield family and thank you for your support.

Best wishes,



Mrs Thewlis