



Be the best you can be

Christleton Primary School

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Tuesday 11th January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

Following various Public Health and DfE meetings over the last week or so, I feel it is worthwhile sending a brief letter to you regarding the current COVID position.

Local Rates

Currently the CWAC infection rates are at an all-time high of 2,294 per 100,000 as of the 5th of January. This figure is more than four times higher than the last week of term before Christmas and is sure to rise now the children have returned to school.

A few measures in place

In school we are continuing to follow the advice provided and continuing to take a cautious approach.

Below are some examples of the steps we continue to take;

- CO2 monitors are used in all classrooms to monitor the air quality. If the air quality has a high CO2 level then steps are taken by the staff to reduce it, i.e. ventilation, removing the children for a period etc.
- Rooms are ventilated continuously via open doors, windows and our air ventilation systems bringing the outside air into the building.
- All adults wear face coverings when moving around the building and have been provided with FFP2 mask to use should they wish.
- Continued focus on handwashing, on oral hygiene i.e. coughing into elbow etc and continued education of the children regarding the role they can play.
- Continued cleaning of high touch points etc.
- Continued communication with all stakeholders.
- Virtual staff meetings – ensuring that the risk of staff to staff transmission is minimal.
- Plan to utilise our outdoor environment for learning where possible.

The above is not an exhaustive list but provides an indication of some of the things in place. We continue to keep abreast of developments and advice, adapting our provision and systems accordingly.

By the end of the week we are pleased to say that we will have HEPA filters present in all of our classrooms. As far as we are aware, we are the only school in CWAC in this position. Once again, we would like to thank the parents who kindly contributed to raising funds toward the purchase of these filters, your support was very much appreciated. Studies have increasingly shown that these filtration units have a significant impact on reducing transmission, so we hope their inclusion in our approach provides further reassurance.



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The Omicron Variant

The Omicron variant is much more infectious than the previous variants and is spreading despite vaccinations. i.e. if you have had Delta then you may not get it again but you can catch Omicron. Early indications suggest that someone with Omicron can be infectious earlier and that Omicron appears to be effecting slightly different parts of the body i.e. upper airways, throat.

We would therefore ask parents to be mindful of their child complaining of sore throats, aches, headaches, sinus issues, sneezes etc. and consider administering a LFD in these circumstances.

We appreciate that the symptoms are difficult to distinguish from a common cold so the test will be a reassuring measure.

When testing, we have also been advised that swabbing the throat is worthwhile as well as the nasal swab, as the throat is where the virus may be found in higher levels.

Thank you

Throughout this pandemic we have been very fortunate to have such a supportive and understanding parent group. We thank you once again for your support and vigilance.

Kind regards,

Mr Mitchell



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