



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Thursday 22nd October 2020

Dear Parents,

Term ends tomorrow and, whilst I have sent out a newsletter earlier on this week, I thought it would be prudent to follow up with a few pieces of information before we break up for the half term holiday.

Unfortunately, we are ending the term having had to instigate a bubble closure and so I would like to reiterate my thanks to the school community for their support at such a challenging time. It is important to recognise how amazingly the children have reacted to the return to school after such a long period of absence and it has been wonderful to see them re-engage with their friends and the learning taking place in school.

I know there has been a huge amount of information and changes to digest over the course of the term and we have had a lot more newsletters and updates than we would do normally. We have tried to keep parents as informed as possible as well as ensuring our risk assessment measures are communicated fully. We will be continuing with our staggered timings and one way systems after half term as they are proving very successful and we are so grateful to everyone for following these on a daily basis.

It is important to note that, moving forward, any future confirmed cases will be assessed on an individual basis and the response will depend on advice and guidance. Public Health England give us detailed support and look closely at each specific scenario. A positive case does not necessarily mean that every member of the bubble is classed as a close contact as it will depend on the time period in which individuals were in contact, how long contact occurred for and what other measures are in place. Due to the size of the school, we do have staff who work across some bubbles and so we are utilising face shields where appropriate alongside our other protective measures. In each possible case, both the staff and pupils will be assessed in terms of when they were in attendance in each bubble and the contacts that then took place and we will seek PHE advice before identifying close contacts.

I know that recent events will have understandably caused concern and you may have queries or worries you would like to share. I am aware that face to face communication is more limited under the current circumstances and, whilst we are limiting parents on site, we are always open to queries via email and telephone and can always arrange appointments for conversations should you require them. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need to.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey