

Tuesday 24 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, we would like to say thank you for your swift response on Friday and for the overwhelming support we have received from the parent body. This is an unprecedented event and we greatly appreciate your support and understanding.

As you will know, we were advised on Friday that a member of the Immunisation Team, who had been in the Infant and Junior schools on Monday, had subsequently tested positive for Covid-19. We held lengthy discussions with the Local Authority and also members of the South Gloucestershire Public Health Team on Friday. Due to the level of contact, close proximity involved in administering the flu vaccine and as a precautionary measure, we were advised by the Local Authority and the South Gloucestershire Public Health team to close the bubbles for all classes who had immunisations on Monday and who had therefore been in close contact with the positive case.

There are some families that we have contacted who have a child in one of the bubbles who are isolating, but who are not close contacts e.g. because they were absent on Monday. These families will have received a separate email to advise them that they must stay at home as their class bubble is closed, but that they do not need to self-isolate. All other children in EYFS, Year 1, 2, 5 & 6 who have not received a separate email from the school should be isolating until 1st December.

The children in the Year 3 & 4 classes did not have the immunisation on Monday due to constraints of time and were therefore not exposed to the positive case. Therefore, the Year 3 & 4 classes remain open.

Children who were in the affected classes on Monday, must now isolate and stay at home until 1st December. Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the self-isolation period.

If your child is well at the end of the isolation period, they can return to school on Tuesday 1st December.

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19, they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date their symptoms appear. You should arrange for your child to be tested and notify the school immediately of the test result. In this instance, all other members of the household would need to isolate and stay at home for 14 days.

A number of families have raised some concerns about the PPE that was worn by staff administering the immunisations. We have passed these concerns on to the Immunisation Team and they have clarified the staff are required to wear the appropriate PPE as outlined in national Public Health England guidance to protect both the children and the vaccinators during the administration of vaccines.

We are extremely disappointed to have closed both the Infant school and the Y5/6 bubbles and have strived hard to ensure that we have robust measures in place to protect our school community. The class teachers of the isolating bubbles will be ensuring that remote learning is set each day. Children in years 1, 2, 5 and 6 can access the remote learning via Google Classroom. For EYFS classes, please continue to access Evidence Me. If you have any questions regarding the remote learning or have difficulties in accessing it online, please contact your child's class teacher using the year group email address.

Yours faithfully,

The Crossways Federation Leadership Team