



Bryn Offa Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr P Thompson

Tuesday 20th October 2020

Dear Parent/ Guardian

The information I received about the first positive Covid-19 case amongst the school population came to me very late yesterday afternoon, so I only had enough time to send out the standard letters provided to us by Public Health Shropshire. There are very strict limitations on the information I can share with parents, but I will try to fill in a few gaps where possible.

Although there are quite a few cases in school of children with headaches and upset stomachs, this is to be expected at this time of year and does not necessarily mean they have a Covid-19 infection. The child who tested positive did have a range of symptoms, but the key symptom that triggered the test was a high temperature. This matches much of the science I have read, which indicates that although there are lots of potential symptoms in children, one of the main three (temperature, cough and loss of smell or taste) is usually present. This reinforces the need to focus on the three main symptoms, but of course be vigilant for any of the symptoms listed for children by the World Health Organisation.

Even though the child with the positive test was not in school on the day of the test or when the result came in, the DFE advised looking at the situation 48 hours before the test was done, which is why we were told to close the Class 5 bubble. The only good thing about the timing of the closure, is that the majority of the time the bubble will be closed is during the half term so the children will not miss too much school.

If bubbles close we will move to online learning, which will either be emailed to parents or will be uploaded onto the class homepage. If the activity requires the children to write anything, we are sending the children home today with an exercise book that can be used. We have also run a successful trial with Class 5 already, with parents photographing the children's work and emailing into Mr Jones so he is able to see what the children are doing and adjust the tasks set. Most of the other classes are running the same trials this week to iron out any problems if we need to move to online learning.

As you can tell from the work we have done so far, we have been hoping for the best but preparing for the worst. It is impossible to predict what the next few weeks and months hold in store, but you can be assured that the teaching staff will continue to provide high quality learning that can be accessed by all the parents and children.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Thompson
Headteacher