

10 January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year and I hope you have enjoyed a good Christmas break. I wish to update and reassure you on how Esteem schools will be responding to the latest Covid-19 challenges.

All our schools have robust risk assessments in place and are continually updating their procedures in response to government guidance. Staff are continuing to complete lateral flow tests, twice a week and we are absolutely committed to keeping your children and family safe, whilst ensuring that we continue to focus on your child's learning, development and wellbeing.

Where there are any positive Covid cases in school, we are required to report these to the Local Authority and to Public Health. If we have a significant number of cases, we may be instructed to increase Covid measures in schools. This may mean that your Headteacher will have to make difficult decisions regarding keeping children in school. They will, of course, consider every other contingency before having to send classes or groups home, and will always communicate with you regarding this decision-making. Other measures could include increased cleaning, ventilation, introducing temporary class bubbles, blended and/or remote learning. Increased measures will be put in place in consultation with Public Health.

Where children are required to stay away from school due to isolation or closure, the school will work with you to deliver learning remotely. We absolutely hope this will not be required but our schools are well prepared to introduce measures if needed.

As a Trust, we strongly believe that wherever possible we should continue to have children in school, as we have throughout the pandemic. We do of course understand that some families may be anxious about their children attending, but we ask that you take time to discuss any concerns with school, who I know will be ready to listen and provide reassurance.

I have no doubt that the next few weeks will be challenging for us all at times. Schools across the UK are likely to face a number of challenges, including an increase in staff absence. We therefore ask that you continue to be supportive and understanding where changes are needed. I know that our schools have been overwhelmed by the support they have received from you all throughout the pandemic. By working together, we will overcome these challenges and enable your children to continue to thrive and develop.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Julian Scholefield
Chief Executive Officer
Esteem Multi-Academy Trust