

John Ball School is fully committed to safeguarding all pupils and celebrating diversity.

Tuesday 28th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid-19 Risk Assessment and Outbreak Management Plan

As you will be aware, we have been able to go back to a more normal school operation during the start of this term. Alongside this, we have been maintaining a number of necessary control measures to manage Covid-19. The key control measures are:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Today we have placed our updated Covid-19 risk assessment (RA) on the Covid-19 tab of our website which details the control measures we are taking. The RA also outlines steps that might be taken to manage an outbreak within the school, this is called an outbreak management plan (OMP). Currently, there are 12 schools in Lewisham that are having to implement their OMP. In essence, for most schools, this returns to arrangements that were in place prior to the summer break. We are not able to say what our OMP would entail, as it would depend upon a number of factors that will only be known at the time of deciding to implement the plan. What we can say, is that we will do everything we can to maintain children being in school.

You must keep your child at home and contact the school if they have the main COVID-19 symptoms (a high temperature; a new, continuous cough or loss/change to smell or taste) or the enhanced symptoms:

- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhoea
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Extreme tiredness
- Headaches
- Joint pain
- Muscle ache
- Runny nose
- Sore throat
- Sneezing

It is really important that they stay at home and we can discuss which test needs to be taken to ensure we prevent the spread of Covid-19 within the school community.

Last September we formulated and shared our protocol for dealing with children in school that present with a high temperature and a protocol for dealing with children in school that present with a new and persistent cough. These are also available for you to refer to on the Covid-19 tab of our website.

Going forward, we will inform the whole parent/carer community if a staff member tests positive for Covid-19 sharing who they are. If a child tests positive, we will share with the class. This should enable you to manage your own risk as a household as well as enable you to make more informed decisions around a cautious approach to attendance or precautionary testing.

If at any time you are unsure, please keep your child at home and call the school to discuss your situation.

Yours sincerely

Jacqui Noakes

Jacqui Noakes
Headteacher