

# Waterhouses CE Primary Academy

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Headteacher: Mr David Wood



17<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parent and Carers

 *Merry Christmas Everyone!* 

I just wanted to wish everyone a safe and Happy Christmas Festive Period.

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work this term- supporting reading at home, completing any learning when having to isolate and for staying fit and well! It is no mean feat!!

Everyone looked suitably Christmassy in their Jumpers on Christmas Jumper Day- Very festive!

## COVID NEWS

### COVID-19 Procedures & Protocols during the Christmas break

Unfortunately, the virus is still prevalent in the community and there remains the possibility that members of our school community will catch COVID-19 or display symptoms of COVID-19 during the holiday. I am writing to explain the procedures we will follow and the protocols we require you to follow in any such cases. Please direct all communications to the headteacher's email: [headteacher@waterhouses.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@waterhouses.staffs.sch.uk)

### What happens if my child displays symptoms of COVID-19 after school on Thursday or on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December?

As I am sure you are aware, there are three main symptoms of COVID-19 and they are;

- A high temperature
- A new and persistent cough
- A loss of taste or sense of smell

If your child displays any of these three symptoms on the evening of **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**, **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December** or **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December** it is really important that you;

- Keep your child and **any** siblings at home
- Book a test **immediately**
- Notify school **immediately** via **only** the following email address [headteacher@waterhouses.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@waterhouses.staffs.sch.uk)

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Within this short timeframe, as soon as we are informed about any child with symptoms who is waiting to be tested, we will send a text message and an email to all families in that child's class. This will explain that 'a *child*' has symptoms and that we are awaiting the results of a test. It will explain that if the test is positive the class bubble will need to isolate for **10 days** from the last contact. This will apply to all children in the class bubble even though it is the Christmas holidays.

### **What happens if my child tests *negative* for COVID-19 having had symptoms on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December or Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

As soon as you get a **negative** test result for your child, we ask that you contact school immediately. Your child can return after the holidays, if they feel better and any high temperature has gone.

As soon as we are informed of a negative result, we will inform all families in your child's class that '*the child*' who was awaiting a test result has tested negative and that their own children **will not** be required to isolate over the Christmas holiday.

### **What happens if my child tests *positive* for COVID-19 having had symptoms on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December or Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

As soon as you get a **positive** test result for your child, we ask that you contact school immediately, again using the following email address: [headteacher@waterhouses.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@waterhouses.staffs.sch.uk) Your child will need to isolate for a further **10 days** from the result of the test.

As soon as we are informed of a positive result in this time period, we will inform all families in your child's class that '*the child*' who was awaiting a test result has tested positive and that the children in the class who are deemed to have been in close contact with the child will need to isolate for **10 days** from the last contact which will be until **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December**. We will have conducted a robust and prompt Risk Assessment with Staffordshire Council's Public Health Team to identify which children in the class bubble are deemed to have been in close contact with the child.

### **What happens if my child displays symptoms of COVID-19 during the rest of the Christmas Holiday?**

If your child displays any of the three symptoms from **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December** it is still really important that you;

- Keep your child and **any** siblings at home
- Book a test **immediately**
- Notify school **immediately** via the headteacher email address.

We will not need to notify any other parents as it will have been 48 hours since the last close contact. We ask that you notify us and we will contact you on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January to advise you when your child can return to school.

We do know these are anxious times for families and we have asked a lot of you. You have responded brilliantly thus far, and we really appreciate your understanding and cooperation; thank you. This feels like a key moment in our combined fight against COVID-19 and your part in keeping everybody safe cannot be underestimated. Working together, we hope to minimise the transmission of this virus and protect everyone in our school, and the wider community, as much as we can.

Thank you in advance and enjoy the Christmas break when it comes.

Stay Safe.

So that just leaves me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Bright and Happy New Year.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D Wood". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent 'D' and 'W'.

David Wood  
Headteacher