



**ELSTON HALL**  
Primary School

AUTUMN 2020

Issue 2 - Wednesday 16th September 2020

# Elston Hall News

## Latest COVID-19 guidance

As parents will be aware, yesterday, school were notified of a positive case in our Class 4 bubble.

School acted in accordance with Public Health England (PHE) by informing parents as soon as this confirmation was received.

Following advice from Public Health England the following measures have been taken:

- \* As a precaution, all Class 4 children are to self-isolate for 14 days—guidance on this can be found on the gov.uk website
- \* Staff within Class 4 are to self-isolate for 14 days
- \* No other year groups are affected

As a result, children from Class 4 will remain at home until we re-open the class on Monday 28th September. During this two week period, children from Class 4 will receive home learning via email—Miss Knowles will be in contact over the next few days with information about this. If you haven't already done so, please can Class 4 families ensure email addresses are with the office, as this will enable work to be sent.

### Can my child's siblings attend school?

Advice from Public Health England is that siblings of pupils in Class 4 at school are still able to attend as usual and other family members, living in the household, are not affected by the requirement to self-isolate, as they have not been in direct contact with the individual who has tested positive.

Our bubble approach, as outlined in our risk assessment, means that a positive test in the Class 4 does not have any additional implications for the rest of Year 1 or any other year groups. The only contact Class 4 had with any other children was outside during lunchtime which Public Health advised is minimal risk. Therefore, attendance at school is mandatory for remaining classes in Year 1 and other year groups and any absence will be marked as unauthorised. As stated in DFE guidance:

*'Time out of school is detrimental for children's cognitive and academic development...this impact can affect both current levels of learning and children's future ability to learn therefore we need to ensure that all pupils are in school...Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind.'*

### What if my child develops symptoms?

As stated in NHS guidance, below are the three main symptoms that may indicate that your child, or a member of your household has coronavirus.

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

*Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms*

In line with government guidance, school will ask you to do the following:

- ◆ Inform school immediately if your child is absent with suspected symptoms
- ◆ To self-isolate for 10 days from date of onset of symptoms (or until they receive a negative result)
- ◆ To take a coronavirus test
- ◆ That members of their household should self-isolate for 14 days (or until the symptomatic household member receives a negative result)

If your child develops symptoms whilst at school, you will be contacted and asked to collect your child immediately.

### What if a child or staff member tests positive?

It is vital that coronavirus test results are communicated with school as soon as they are received using the school email address: [elstonhallprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:elstonhallprimaryschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk) or via telephone (01902 558866) if a test result is received during school hours.

We kindly ask that families do not call or email school with queries about whether a positive test has occurred or the details following this, as parents will be notified as soon as we are aware of this. Speculation or advertising such news over social media website is not helpful.

### Thank you!

We send our heartfelt thanks to all families who are cooperating with us and following our systems for safe working practice at Elston Hall. Having our first positive case of COVID-19 has been challenging for our whole school community including parents, children and staff.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as families demonstrated yesterday and we kindly ask this for the foreseeable future, as we adjust to returning to school during these unprecedented times. The safety of our children, staff and families underpin all of our current procedures which are based on guidance from the DFE and Public Health England.

Miss Foster and Mr Nicholls —Heads of School.