



25th November 2020

Dear Parent or Carer

### **A confirmed case of Covid19 at Whitegate End**

We have heard today that a **Year 6 pupil** has tested positive for Covid 19. As we heard early this morning we had to make the decision to ask all of Year 6 to stay away from school today.

This decision was made with public health Oldham. This has enabled us to conduct our own track and trace to identify those pupils and staff who have been contacts. These have been confirmed by Oldham's Public Health Team.

We thank all of the parents who have been so understanding of the situation and supported us today. We fully appreciate how difficult it is when these decisions are made but the safety of the children and staff is paramount and we are duty bound by Public Health protocols.

As a result of conversations with Public Health together we have identified and confirmed that **all of the Year 6 pupils present in school on Monday** have been in close contact with the pupil and **must** self-isolate for 14 days. **Pupils can return to school on Monday 7th December.**

**All of Year 6 pupils need to self-isolate**, other members of the pupil's household do not need to self-isolate this includes siblings of those pupils identified in Year 6. They can still attend school and do not need to isolate. Those pupils who are isolating should carefully follow the Government guidelines and not leave the home until Monday 7th December.

For primary schools or settings, a contact can be any child or adult within their bubble. To **clarify a contact**, is a child or adult who has been within 2 metres of the confirmed case **for more than 15 minutes**, or within **1 metre for 1 minute**, or **who has been face to face during social time**, or **who is in close contact on designated school transport**.

We have provided this information to Public Health using our management information records, timetables, seating plans and staff observation of pupils.

### **Here are some of the actions we are currently undertaking:**

- A text has been sent to ensure pupils don't attend school today.
- Work will be uploaded on Seesaw today by Mr Scott & Mrs Bingham and will be uploaded each day.
- A copy of our Home learning protocol is available on the school website.
- If your child develops any of the symptoms listed below, please book them a test, keep them off school whilst you wait for the results and then inform us of the results.

*'To be the best that we can be'*

## **Responsibility, Resilience & Respect**

- We will continue with our system of additional cleaning of key touch points throughout the day.
- The Year 6 classroom will be deep cleaned.
- School will continue to follow advice from Public Health England with regards to pupils and adults working in school.
- Staff will continue to remind pupils about distancing and ensure regular hand washing and sanitising.
- Please help us by reminding your child about distancing and good hygiene.

It is important that we are all aware of the symptoms of Covid19 and only well child attend school or childcare settings.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **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)
- **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 one of these symptoms. Information about Covid19 symptoms and management of the virus can be found here, [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/)

If your child is identified as a contact, please try not to worry. For most people Covid19 is a mild illness.

If you or your child develops any of the above symptoms or become unwell please contact NHS 111 or your GP. Although Covid19 is circulating in the community, usual childhood illnesses are too and it is important that these are not missed.

If you have any questions or concerns please refer to the government website, [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus) or you can contact me by e-mailing [info@whitegateend.oldham.sch.uk](mailto:info@whitegateend.oldham.sch.uk)

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs J Conway

CC: Katrina Stephens, Director of Public Health, Oldham Council.

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