DOTHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Becca Butler

29 November 2021

Dear Parents Temporary Stepped Up Covid Measures - Years 5 and 6

We have had another rise in the number of COVID-19 cases within the school recently which has again triggered the need for what is known as 'stepped-up measures' to be implemented temporarily in order to try to control transmission across the school. This decision has been taken in conjunction with and on the advice of the Health Protection Hub and follows the advice within the Government's Contingency Framework for schools.

These measures are additional to the fundamental controls we already have in place covering issues such as ventilation, cleaning and handwashing, and those we have already decided to adopt. The additional control measures have been designed to have minimal impact on your child's education, and are as follows:

- We are keeping year group bubbles for Years 5 and 6. These groups will be kept separate from each other and from other year groups due to our established phase bubbles.
- We would recommend PCR testing for children in these year groups and any siblings they have within the school, selecting "Advised by the Local Authority" as the reason for testing. The pupils would not need to await the results before attending to school.
- We are already social distancing amongst staff but are re-emphasising this to all staff
- We are continuing to wear face coverings for staff in communal areas.
- We will consider whether any activities could take place outdoors, including exercise or classes, if weather and practicalities permit.
- We will be extra vigilant for symptoms among staff and pupils and ensure that anyone displaying symptoms stays off school and gets tested.

As general advice, if your child is in a household where there is a positive case (even at primary age), in addition to them taking a PCR as soon as possible, we would also ask that they take daily LFD tests for a period of 7 days from the date of exposure to the positive case.

We will continue to liaise with the Health Protection Hub and will advise you again when these controls are lifted. As always, please ensure you are vigilant for symptoms and if your child does display symptoms, please keep them off school and book them a COVID test using this link: <u>Get a free PCR</u> test to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Thank you for your continued support and understanding in this matter.

Becca Butler Head teacher





