

MEADGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mascalls Way • Great Baddow • Chelmsford • Essex CM2 7NS Tel: (01245) 259403

E-mail: admin@meadgate.essex.sch.uk • Website: www.meadgateprimary.com Executive Headteacher: Mr. J. J. Figg

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Dear Parents/Cárers

As you would have seen there was a significant national increase in COVID-19 cases over the Christmas two week period. This has also been the case amongst school staff and their families at Meadgate Primary with several members of staff testing positive for COVID-19 at the start of the Christmas holiday and during the two week festive period. This will impact on staff numbers as we move into January and may lead us to move some classes onto remote education whilst staff compete their self isolation periods. We will do everything we can to avoid this but this may not be possible.

As a result in the significant number of COVID cases no one will be allowed into the school building unless they are wearing a face covering. This is to protect our school staff so that we can keep classes open to face-to-face education. This includes short visits to the school office as well as meetings with school staff. Please continue to socially distance when you are on the school site and you must wear a face covering when you are dropping off and collecting your children. We understand that face coverings are not everyone's preference. However, they will keep our school community safe and furthermore keep the school open for face-to-face education. Please continue to do your bit to keep us all safe.

From Wednesday 22 December 2021, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 was reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals may now take lateral flow tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with lateral flow testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8. We would also ask that all pupils carry out a lateral flow test before returning to school this term.

Within the school, adults will continue to wear face coverings when walking around the school buildings, classroom windows will be open during the school day to allow good air flow and we will continue to monitor and update our risk assessments and procedures. It is vital that our children experience a 'normal' education and we will continue to take part in school trips, run school clubs and implement our full curriculum offer.

As always, thank you for your support

Mr Figg

Executive Headteacher