



Principal: Miss Orla O'Dowd

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6th September 2021

Letter to P4LF

It's officially only our fourth day back and we have had to close two classes due to positive Covid outcomes for children and subsequent contact tracing. Those families have been informed and I want to thank them for their swift response and understanding.

This is not the start we were hoping for so early into the school term, but we were expecting it as a high number of children delayed their start date due to Covid – so we knew it was out there!

We have been given "guidance" from the Education Authority and from the Public Health Agency, but quite frankly the guidance continues to leave the children and our school vulnerable to infection and open to multiple tests needed for all children identified as close contacts.

Our Process:

At this early stage in the school year the children identified as close contacts should remain off for 10 days' isolation to create a clean circuit break for the class and to give the school a chance at managing the sudden rise in childhood cases. Their last date of contact with the case was 3rd September. Before returning to school on Tuesday 14th September we will require a negative PCR result and that screenshot should be emailed to oodowd352@c2kni.net for our records.

How to book a test?

You can book a test online at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by phoning 119. When you are booking the PCR test online, under the section 'why are you asking for a test', please select 'I have been told by contact tracers to get a test.' When asked for a code, please enter 5036633J We are asking you to enter the code as it helps the Public Health Agency to monitor and assess COVID clusters when they occur. While you should still be able to book a test even if you do not enter the code, it helps them if you do.

Tests can be arranged at your closest testing site or by requesting a postal kit which will be sent to your home address. You can choose whichever option is more convenient for you. Going for a COVID test is one of the reasons your child can leave home during the self-isolation period, however, they should not use public transport. Please order a postal test if you do not have private transport to a test site.

We hope that you can support this deviation from the guidance as we try to manage this situation. Any issues please feel free to email me at the address above or call the school office to speak with me. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely
Orla O'Dowd
Principal

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