



# Merridale Primary School

Aspen Way Wolverhampton WV3 0UP

Telephone: 01902 558760

Fax: 01902 558761

E Mail: [office@merridaleprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@merridaleprimary.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mr Simon Lane

[www.merridaleprimary.co.uk](http://www.merridaleprimary.co.uk)

Date: Monday 28th June 2021

Ref: LT/MM/SL

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you as I know that many families are concerned about the number of COVID cases we have recently had in our Year 4 bubble. This is clearly a highly transmissible strain of the virus and I know that many families are concerned about how easily it has spread within the class.

I was really pleased to see how many Year 4 families followed the advice from Public Health England and arranged a PCR COVID test for their child over the past week and ensured that they did not send them into school unless they had a negative test result. However, we know that many families did not follow this advice as their child had no symptoms.

You can arrange a PCR test for any household members by calling 119 or visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

If you do not have symptoms, you can choose one of these options when you book online:

- I've been in contact with someone who's tested positive for coronavirus
- I've been told to get a test by my nursery, work or place of education
- I've been told to get a test by my local council, health protection team or healthcare professional

I think it is important to let you know that many members of the Year 4 bubble who tested positive for COVID following this routine testing had no symptoms whatsoever and that we were only able to identify these cases because families followed the advice for routine testing. Please be aware that many children have no symptoms and often have entirely different symptoms from the three main symptoms identified (high temperature, new, continuous cough or loss/change of taste or smell). Many children's symptoms can be runny nose, sore throat and upset stomach.

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness, however, we know that many families are worried about elderly or vulnerable members of their household who may be at risk. For this reason, we are asking for the continued support of all families:

- Please do not send your child into school if they are unwell.
- Please arrange a PCR (not a Lateral Flow) test for your child if they are not well enough to come to school (no matter what their symptoms are).
- Please notify school of the results of PCR tests using our e-mail address.

- Isolate your child for ten days when you are instructed to. This means that they **MUST NOT** leave your home or garden or have contact with anyone that does not live in your house.

Having to close bubbles and asking our school community members to isolate is not something we want to do. We wish to avoid this at all costs but we need the support of our whole school community to do this. In order to keep as many classes open, we urge families to be cautious when deciding on whether to send children into school. If you are in any doubt, please arrange a PCR test as soon as possible and keep your child at home.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Lane', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr S Lane  
Headteacher