



Dear Families

What a year it has been at Britannia CP School! This term has had its challenges, but we have got through this together. I know that the staff, governors and I are grateful for your support and kindness.

Christmas is looming and excitement is building, it really is a magical time in our primary school. However, as Rossendale remains in 'Tier 3' as designated by the government, the five day Christmas period where three households may join together is the only opportunity to mix with our loved ones at present. Therefore, we want to avoid as far as possible whole class bubbles having to isolate in the fourteen days before Christmas, missing their only opportunity for a family celebration.

We also want to ensure that we have minimised risk of transmission for everyone in our school community. In order to achieve this we need your support. In order to avoid bubble closures in the final week of term we are asking all families to become even more vigilant around symptoms of COVID-19 and general illness.

Children often present with different symptoms than those in the government guidance, and on this occasion we would ask all families to err on the side of caution and keep your child at home if they are unwell in any way. If in doubt, get a test.

Another safeguard we will be putting in place in the last week is to give all staff the option to wear full PPE and they will be following stringent social distancing measures in the classrooms as well as around school. This is again to minimise the risk of transmission in preparation for the festive season.

We understand that some families may wish to isolate in the period before the end of term. We will do all we can, on this occasion, to support you with this. If you wish to discuss your situation, please contact Mrs Longstaff by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Remote learning will be available through the school website, however as classes are in school we will not be able to offer Google Meets during this week. We will endeavour to have a Christmassy flavour to some of the home learning.

It is imperative that you continue to check emails and text messages over the festive season, as the government guidance is that schools must continue to play a role in track and trace over the holidays. We could even have to make the calls on Christmas Eve depending on the time line of any positive case. We hope that we will not have to make any calls at this time, as we know the distress this could bring to our children and families. We will continue to take every precaution, however, this is a very difficult situation, and we are only too aware that any bubble could be effected at any time.

If your child does test positive for Covid19 over the Christmas period, you must notify school as soon as possible on [head@britannia.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@britannia.lancs.sch.uk)

Yours faithfully

N Longstaff



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