



Oastlers School

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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to a new academic year! It feels good to welcome everyone back into school.

I have a number of updates for you, the first being COVID-19. We have had three recent positive cases, two adults and one child. I am pleased to reassure you that the majority of our community are testing themselves frequently using the Lateral Flow Testing kit, provided by school, which is incredibly helpful in keeping a close eye on developing cases. The guidance changes frequently, but a simple breakdown currently is set out below:

In respect to symptoms and positive LFT test:

- LFT positive
- Leave school and book PCR
- PCR positive – self isolate
- Test & Trace will then coordinate contacts (not school)
- Isolation is 10 days from the first day of symptoms OR from the date of the positive PCR test (for those asymptomatic)

In respect to contacts:

- There is no mandatory isolation period for contacts
- No isolation required for those living with anyone positive
- No isolation required for children under 18yrs and 6 months
- Self-isolation still stands if you are an adult who has not been double jabbed
- Test & Trace will then manage the isolation period/contacts

I have re-introduced some additional protective measures in school such as managing group sizes, minimise meetings and assemblies and will review the situation weekly. I am in contact with colleagues from Public Health and have no significant concerns at this point but will keep you all updated, certainly if things change. More measures may be introduced if necessary. The hand washing routines and hand sanitising is still required.

Please continue to ensure your child tests at home and inform school of any positive results.

I have pleasure in informing you that we have secured the services of a qualified, and experienced, counsellor and psychotherapist joining the team who is able to offer a range of therapeutic interventions. I enclose two leaflets about services for your information.

We are building on our therapy team and now have a hypnotherapist (new), mindfulness counsellor (new), animal assisted play therapist, relaxation therapists, speech and language therapist and rebound therapist on site.



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What this means is that we are able to offer additional support for learners who find themselves needing help to regulate emotional distress.

We will ensure that referrals are dealt with fairly and sensitively as we know services will be in demand. Consent for all referrals is required and you will be contacted about this if your son/daughter would benefit from these services to obtain permission for therapy to take place.


As the school is working hard to secure Trauma Informed status, we are constantly reviewing what the needs of our children and families are and trying our best to offer the right support and the right time. If you need any further information about our therapy work, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Our new counsellor will be in school each and every Monday. Of course we have Phil Parr with us full time, Yvonne's work compliments that offered by our own counsellor but her experience is somewhat more specialised, such as bereavement or CBT, so hopefully her being with us enhances our offer of talking therapy.

Swimming lessons have got off to a good start and the planned residential trip to Malham will go ahead at this point but the planned trip to France will not sadly. We have cancelled the McMillan Coffee Morning but will host a non-uniform day to raise funds for this valuable charity.

I think that is about it for now, but will be in touch re COVID-19 as things change.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lyndsey Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Lyndsey Brown
Headteacher