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Headteachers - *David Wilson B.A. (Hons)*  
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"Together we can achieve more"

### Update regarding current situation

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware there have been cases of children in the school testing positive for Coronavirus over the past two weeks and I want to explain to you what we are finding, the current situation locally and what the school is doing as a result.

#### Cases in the school

All the cases that we have had in the school have been single cases in bubbles. The cases have been in Year 3, Year 6 and Year 4. I cannot go into detail but it is very unlikely that these cases are linked. We are increasingly finding that household members are testing positive and subsequently parents are getting other members of the household tested and some of those children tested are testing positive. At the time of writing there have been no further cases in the bubbles that have been asked to self- isolate.

#### Local area

Enfield has seen a significant rise in cases over the past 2 weeks. This is reflected not only in the data available but what I am hearing from other headteachers locally. Unfortunately, in the short term we are likely to see further cases in the school and contacts will be asked to self- isolate.

#### Action the School is taking

The school has already taken significant action that you will have been informed of, including separation of bubbles, additional cleaning and handwashing, keeping windows open (even in the cold weather) to enable increased ventilation. There are few further actions that are available to the school in this regard.

However, what we are going to do is to reduce the number of contacts that pupils have. We have been running some intervention groups where children were mixing with a limited number of other children within their year groups. We are now readjusting how we run interventions and temporarily stopping others to ensure that the vast majority of children do not have contacts beyond their classroom and thus reducing the number of children that will have to self- isolate if a pupil tests positive. The only exception to this is in **Reception**, as due to the curriculum expectations of indoor and outdoor learning, **the whole year group is a bubble**.

The only place where children may have contacts with children outside their class (but within their year group) is in breakfast and tea time club. We have decided to keep this provision going as we know it is very

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## Highfield Primary School



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important to the families that use them. If you currently attend breakfast and/or tea time club, please only continue to do so if you have no other alternative.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to run the school with no adult having contact with more than 1 class. This is also increasingly difficult as more members of staff self-isolate because they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive, both within the school and elsewhere.

### Masks

**Due to the high infection rate locally we are now asking parents/Carers to wear masks in and around the school grounds when dropping off and bringing children to school.** We understand that some parents will not be able to do this for medical reasons but we are asking if you can then please do.

These are incredibly challenging times for all of us and we appreciate the support that parents and carers have given the school. Your compliance with the measures that we have in place has made our jobs much easier and contributes to keeping us all safer. I hope it will not be too long before we see an improvement in the situation, both locally and nationally, but for now stricter measures are needed.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Wilson  
Headteacher

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