

Friday 14th May 2021



Rumworth School

Dear parents and carers,

Firstly, thank you for your ongoing support with all our efforts towards helping to keep your children and everyone else in our school community safe during the Covid-19 pandemic.

As you will know, our school is in the BL3 postcode where there is a surge in cases of two Covid-19 variants of concern – these are the variants of concern that originated in India and in Africa.

Although we are not too close to the epicentre of the current worrying outbreak of variants of concern within BL3, we do hope you can support the wider Bolton effort to contain this and minimise further spread.

Covid safety measures in school, including masks & face coverings

We have included the letter from Bolton Council that we have received today for you to read. Masks and face coverings will continue to be required in Bolton schools, and this will still be the case from Monday even though some areas of the country with very low infection rates are starting to ease up on Covid safety measures. The Prime Minister did say in his announcement that there may need to be local solutions to local conditions; continuing the use of masks and face coverings in Bolton schools is one of these.

- We will also be continuing with all of our other Covid safety measures including class bubbles, dining in class bases, very regular handwashing & hand gel routines, and our cleaning team will continue with the enhanced cleaning regime through the school day, too.

Lateral flow testing

Early detection and then household isolation is the best way to prevent Covid-19 spreading rapidly. The use of regular lateral flow testing is the best way to identify anyone carrying the virus who either has no symptoms or is at the very early stages of being infectious. PLEASE take part in our twice weekly lateral flow testing for your child and all of your household. Please let your child's teacher know via the home-school diary if you need additional free lateral flow test kits sending home on Monday. Lateral flow test results should be logged on our website link for your child. Our website does have a lot of useful information around Covid-19, too.

Surge testing for anyone who works or lives or goes to school within BL3

Public Health England have set up a surge testing programme of sensitive PCR tests for anyone who works or lives or goes to school within BL3. Rumworth School is going to support this surge testing effort by agreeing to act as one of the distribution & collection points for the PCR tests that are requested & then taken by our staff, our students and their families. We will NOT be administering PCR tests at school but when these kits do arrive, we will be able to send them home for you to carry out tests on your own child and your household, should you agree to this. We will be contacting all families directly by telephone call early next week to ask you to volunteer to access this scheme.

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Signs of illness of any kind


If in any doubt, please keep your child out of school. Our school caters for many medically vulnerable children, some of whom had to shield on medical advice. If your child has ANY signs or symptoms of ANY illness, please keep them off school. If the symptoms could be Covid-related, then your child and ALL of your household and your support bubble MUST isolate whilst your child has a PCR test and awaits results. This is the same for any member of your household. Please do NOT send your child to school if anyone else at home is ill with possible Covid symptoms. If your child arrives at school with any symptoms or becomes unwell during the school day, we will contact you as a matter of urgency to collect them and take them home.

If we suspect your child has possible Covid symptoms then we will require proof of a negative PCR test (not a lateral flow test) before they can return to school.

For any illness or symptom that could be infectious, we will also require you to keep your child at home until they have been well and free of symptoms for AT LEAST 48 hours before they can return to school.

Thank you again for your continued support

Yours sincerely,



Mr G Johnson
Headteacher

