



Dear Parents/Carers

As I am sure many of you are aware there has been a flurry of positive covid cases since the start of the term with four outbreaks spread across the two sites. We have also had a significant number of staff absent due to covid, which has made the situation particularly challenging for us as a school. We are trying to keep classes open and are therefore using all available staff to cover where necessary. Please bear in mind that if staffing cover becomes impossible, we may need to consider whether to close classes.

I know that it may be difficult to appreciate the position that schools are facing, particularly when the Prime Minister has announced that Covid Plan B measures will be removed across England from 27th January. Although cases have decreased in Lambeth in all age groups since the start of January, they are still high and, as a school, we have noticed a day on day increase since the beginning of this term. Today we have 55 confirmed cases with approximately 8 further children awaiting test results. It is recommended that enhanced measures are introduced where the threshold of an outbreak has been reached and so, as a result, we have had to introduce more stringent measures to reduce mixing, including:

- The re-introduction of bubbles, in affected year groups
- Moving essential co-curricular activities online
- Virtual online assemblies until the end of the February term
- Suspend/cancel all other co-curricular activities including open days and in-person staff meetings across the setting

We would also ask that you continue to test your child twice weekly whilst cases are still high.

We understand that many of you will be concerned about learning when your child is off school and we have posted work (for the remainder of the term) to J2e which children are able to access if they are unable to attend school. I am sure you will appreciate that it has been difficult to juggle home learning and in person schooling, particularly when staff have themselves been unwell and we would ask you to bear with us if there is a delay.

Finally, we would like to thank you again for your support whilst we navigate our way through the next few weeks. I am sure like us, you are looking forward to easier times ahead and are optimistic that these challenging times will soon pass!

In the words of Maya Angelou "I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow."

Best wishes

Alison, Becky and Sam