

Round Hill Bulletin – 25th September 2020

A copy of this Bulletin will be placed on the <u>School Website.</u>

	Whole School Information
Collecting Children	A polite reminder that children need to be collected from school by a named adult over the age of 16. We will not release a child to anyone other than who they are supposed to be collected by. If your circumstances change, you must update the information we hold by contacting the school office via email.
Reporting Child Absences	 You will have noticed that we have simplified our procedures for a reporting the absence of a child. This is due to the increased number of absences in school. If your child is absent from school you can complete an electronic form on the school website. The form is located on <u>this link</u>. Alternatively you can still leave a message on the school answerphone. One additional change we are making is that as of Monday 28th September, all parents must now report an absence every day, using the form or leaving an answerphone message. This helps to ensure the safety of children.
What do I do if a Member of our Family has a Negative Test Outcome?	As mentioned in our letter dated 15 th September, if you have notified us that your family is self isolating due to a member of the family having Covid symptoms, please can I just reiterate the need to communicate with us if you or a member of your family receive a negative test outcome, as well as a positive outcome. To reassure my staff and the rest of the school community, parents are being asked to provide evidence of a negative outcome, by emailing the school office a screen shot that the test outcome is negative. This will be required prior to your child/children returning to school. I am sure you will understand our reasoning, but if you would like to discuss this further then please let us know.
Parents' Forum	Thank you to the parents who gave their time to attend the meeting on Wednesday. The notes from the meeting can be found in the form of a 'Parents' Forum Blog' on the school website by <u>clicking here</u> .
Social Distancing Face Masks	 Following feedback from parents, from Monday 28th September, we are strongly encouraging and would like all parents to wear a facemask on the school site during drop off and pick up. Whilst we appreciate there is less chance of catching COVID-19 outside, we would welcome your support in order to keep everyone safe. To further support social distancing, please allow others space and time to move through the narrower areas around the site Please respect that not all disabilities are visible and some of our parents and staff are unable to wear a face covering because of personal circumstances.
School Uniform from September	A reminder that when we return to school after half term all children will be expected to wear school uniform again. Please do get in touch if this creates difficulties as we have kindly had some second hand uniform donated to the school which may be suitable for your child. In order to avoid having to be unnecessarily close to children, we strongly encourage children to wear shoes with velcro fastenings if they are not able to tie shoelaces themselves and trousers/skirts and tops which have no buttons/fastenings.

What Happens if we get a Positive Test Reported to School?	Further to previous communications, I thought it might be useful to explain in more detail the approach that we would take should there be a positive case of coronavirus at Round Hill to keep staff, parents and pupils safe.
	If a positive test case is notified to us, we will collect all the relevant information from the pupil and parents and contact Public Health England. We will focus on contacts in school only. Out of school contacts are followed up with the family by Track and Trace.
	A pupil is considered to be infectious up to 48 hours before developing symptoms, or testing positive if no symptoms. We will therefore wind the clock back 2 days and identify which other pupils sat close in lessons or spent time in close proximity with them at break or lunch. Because of our school layout and strict seating plans at lunch times, we will not always need to send whole bubbles home.
	Identified pupils will be sent home and need to stay isolated for 14 days from the point they had contact with the infectious pupil. Even if they are able to get tested and return a negative, they must still continue to isolate for the specified period.
	We will provide work on the school website, supplemented by the use of ClassDojo. Obviously this is not the same as being in a lesson, and we are looking at how we can improve what we provide so that everyone can continue to access their learning. Staff are currently researching a range of learning platforms, which involve visual contact with staff, set clear deadlines for pupil's work and provides support and feedback.
	Parents have asked if we can "live stream" lessons to pupils forced to stay at home. Unfortunately, technically and educationally, it just does not work to deliver simultaneously an online lesson and a real one in a classroom. Strange as it may seem, it is easier to deliver online lessons if we are in complete lockdown again – something we all hope will not happen.
	None of this is something we want to happen, obviously. However, by working closely with the health professionals and following the advice and guidelines strictly, we are all playing our part in limiting the spread of this virus.