

Letter to Birchfield parents

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unfortunately, we have had notification of a positive COVID-19 test within Reception class RM. I have spent much of the morning working with Public Health England and the DfE to ensure that we are taking the right actions to keep our school community in good health.

The advice that we have been given is outlined below:

Only staff and children within the affected class will need to self-isolate.

Siblings of children in RM are advised to attend school as usual. Children in other year groups are advised to remain in school.

As per the guidance from Public Health England, children will only need to be tested if they develop any of the symptoms as listed on the DfE and NHS websites:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

We will continue with our thorough cleaning schedule that we have in place and will ensure that a further deep clean of school takes place this evening.

Staff and leaders across school are working tirelessly to ensure that we are following all of the guidance being issued. I appreciate that this is a very worrying and challenging time for the whole Birchfield family and thank you for your support.

Best wishes,

Mrs Thewlis

