

1 Ballywoolen Road, Castlerock BT51 4TZ Tel. (028) 7084 8395

Principal: Mrs D Winters

Dear Parent 02/09/21

The current COVID levels in the local community are concerning. As a school we will strive to function as normally as possible, but this depends on your help. We are aware of a number of children in school who have recently had PCR tests because a member of their household has tested positive or because they have been in close contact with a positive case.

Only a few parents have shared this information with school, and it has been the children themselves who have told members of staff. Those children may have tested negative on Day 1 or Day 2 and will have to have another PCR test on Day 8. Although they are free to be in school we need to know who could possibly be positive at some point between those two dates so we can tighten up Covid measures within the classroom during that period of time.

We are also aware of children who have been in school, and are due to go for a PCR test after school. While this is fine for a child who is going for a Day 8 PCR test, it is <u>NOT</u> ok for a child who is going for their first PCR on Day 1 or Day 2. Those children should not be in school until they have had a negative result returned. School would like to see a copy of those test results as a matter of courtesy to our staff and other pupils who are working in close proximity to your child on a daily basis.

I stipulated in an earlier letter that minor cold symptoms such as a runny nose should not stop a child coming to school. However, if your child has COVID symptoms of a high temperature, a new and persistent cough or a loss of taste and smell, then they should not come to school and should seek immediate testing. Should a child arrive at school with any of these symptoms you will be contacted immediately to come and take the child for a PCR test. They cannot be back in school until they receive a negative test result or after their 10 day isolation if they are found to be positive.

Yours sincerely

Donna Winters