



# Barlby Primary School

Headteacher: Anthony Mannix-Power  
Deputy Headteacher: Colette Keane  
Assistant Headteacher: Rachael Stone

12<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am writing to update you on the situation regarding coronavirus and its impact on Barlby. We were very fortunate to keep all our class bubbles open from the 1<sup>st</sup> September until 9<sup>th</sup> November with a full quota of staff. Regrettably, on Monday we had a positive case confirmed in Year 1 and later we were informed of a second case in a reception class. This led to the closure of two bubbles with children and staff isolating until Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November.

I would like to explain the procedure when a case is confirmed in a primary school. I was required to phone the Department for Education and I was also required to report to the local authority. The cases have been logged with Public Health. I was directed to close the bubbles where the infected children had been learning. Please note that closing bubbles is not a school based decision. We are required to follow the direction from the DfE and colleagues in Public Health. I have mentioned this as we have had a flurry of unpleasant phone calls and e-mails. I can assure you we are doing our very best in a very challenging situation. As always, the majority of parents & carers have been lovely and supportive understanding that this terrible virus has impacted on each and every one of us. Thank you for your support and patience.

Drop off and collection procedures at the Treverton Street gate have been adjusted in response to the confirmed cases and national lockdown. Parents and carers are requested to wear a face covering when dropping off and collecting with only four adults permitted on site at a time. This has led to a more efficient and safer system at our busiest gate.

As a staff we feel very fortunate to be coming into school during this time and we thoroughly enjoy our time with the children albeit in small learning bubbles. I know that isolating staff would much prefer to be on site and the zoom calls they have with their classes are the highlight of their day. We miss all the children unable to be with us for this short period and look forward to having a full school again on Wednesday.

Finally, please get in touch if you need support of any kind. We can help with essentials and also by putting you in touch with charitable partners or organisations. If you need support please e-mail [info@barlby.rbkc.sch.uk](mailto:info@barlby.rbkc.sch.uk). Your e-mail will be treated sensitively and we will do our best to help. Once again, thank you and let us look forward to the days when we can be together again as one Barlby family.

Best wishes,

Anthony Mannix

Headteacher